Pastor still may burn Qurans *3*

Silent night for Kanye? *4*

A Bears virtual disaster *12*

'Just Desserts' for Chicago chef *36*

redeye

Friday
SEPTEMBER 10, 20
redeyechicago.
A Chicago Tribu
publication

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REDEYE PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

DATING MYTHS DEBUNKED

Gee golly! Don't believe those nasty rumors about finding true love in Chicago *pages 20-21*

best bets

By Rebecca Palmore

rkpalmore
@tribune.com

For locals

Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Ave.

Spend quality time at a local institution, minus the tourist- and field-trip element, at After Dark. The social gives you a chance to graze on appetizers in the Modern Wing, belly up to a cash bar, ogle new site-specific installation "Public Notice 3" and dance to beats from DJ Madrid. 9 p.m.-midnight Friday. 877-307-4242.

For Papa wheelies

Start: Murphy's Bleachers, 3655 N. Sheffield Ave.

Enlist a buddy to help you win New Belgium Brewing's annual Urban Assault Ride. Cycle to checkpoints across the city and compete in odd challenges and obstacles, such as human "bowling" and piggyback polo. Prizes include Timbuk2 messenger bags and more. A sudsy party awaits at the finish line. 9 a.m. Sunday. $65. Registration required: **urbanassaultride.com**

For pork bellies

Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2501

Play witness—and food critic—to the efforts of 20 local amateur chefs at the Chicago Bacon Takedown. Each competitor offers a custom bacon dish for the chance to win a year's supply of the ingredient du jour. Bonus: One randomly selected attendee also wins! 1:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday. $15.

For Bears fans

Jimmy Green's Bar & Grill, 825 S. State St. 312-386-9000

Bid preseason drama farewell and usher in the real deal as the Bears take on the Lions at noon Sunday at Soldier Field. Watch it all go down just a mile from the field at this South Loop sports bar with 20-plus TVs and drink specials like $7 jumbo bloody marys with Ketel One and pitchers of sweet tea vodka-lemonade for $18. Opens at 11 a.m.

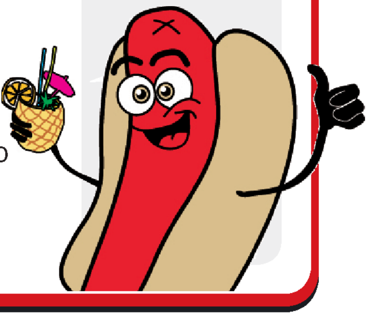
For party animals

Clark and Addison streets

Thinking of adding a fuzzy member to your family? Meet with local rescue organizations at the Adopt Hop, a benefit pub crawl to eight Wrigleyville bars that culminates in a rally with comedian Josh Alton at Rockit Bar & Grill (3700 N. Clark St.). Includes food and drink specials, a T-shirt and more. 2-6 p.m. Saturday. $25-$30: **adopthopchicago.org**

FESTIVALS

Go online to **metromix.com/fests** for complete info and coverage of this weekend's Renegade Craft Fair, German-American Fest, Wells Street Fall Fest, Mexican Independence Day parades and more in our 2010 festival guide. Also, find photos and meet Festy, our interactive hot dog.



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73 63

TODAY'S FORECAST

You just know it won't be this calm for long

SAT.
71
55
Yep, there it is

SUN.
76
58
Da Bears and Da Sunshine

MON.
77
58
On the warmer side

TUE.
72
54
Chilling out again

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After

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QURAN FIRESTORM

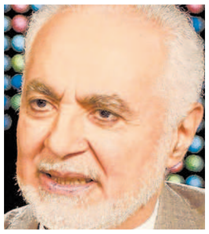
PASTOR CALLS OFF BURNING OF HOLY BOOK, THEN BACKTRACKS

CNN

A Florida pastor who called off a Quran burning said late Thursday that he was "rethinking our position" after a proposed meeting over the location of an Islamic center near New York's ground zero went unconfirmed.

The dramatic development was one of several twists on a day when President Obama and Defense Secretary Robert Gates urged the Rev. Terry Jones to call off the Saturday event, timed for the ninth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

During the afternoon, Jones canceled his plan to burn copies of the Quran, based on what he said were assurances from a local Muslim leader that the Islamic center in New York would be moved—an assertion rejected by the center's visionary in New York.


Rauf

Jones, leader of the Gainesville, Fla.-based Dove World Outreach Center, announced he will travel Saturday to New York to meet with the religious leader behind the planned center, Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, about a new location.

But Rauf and Imam Muhammad Musri, a Florida Muslim leader who appeared with Jones, said no agreement on a meeting or relocation of the mosque had been reached.

Wayne Sapp, associate pastor of the small church, said that the Quran burning scheduled for Saturday was postponed until the proposed meeting in New York is confirmed.

The church would wait 24 hours to confirm the meeting will take place before making any further decision about the Quran burning, Sapp said.

Jones insisted he had been told of a deal to move the New York mosque.

"We assumed what the imam Musri said was true. Now, we're in a state of limbo and we have to rethink our position," Jones said Thursday evening. "We are rethinking our position. We are reconsidering, but we'd like to think what the imam said was true. We're a little back to square one. We hope this thing works out."

Rauf issued a statement earlier Thursday.

"I am glad that Pastor Jones has decided not to burn any Qurans. However, I have not spoken to Pastor Jones or Imam Musri. I am surprised by their announcement. We are not going to toy with our religion or any other. Nor are we going to barter. We are here to extend our hands to build peace and harmony."

LOCAL 6
9
7
FOX 13 NEWS

Imam Muhammad Musri (left) of the Islamic Society of Central Florida and Pastor Terry Jones of Dove World Outreach Center announce Thursday that Jones' church will not burn Qurans. Jones later backtracked. **GETTY IMAGES**

Trump offers to purchase site of proposed Islamic center

From news services

For a little while Thursday afternoon, Donald Trump got involved in the controversial Islamic Center planned for lower Manhattan.

The real estate mogul offered to buy the site where a Muslim group plans to build for 25 percent more than the current owners paid for it.

Trump made the offer Thursday in a letter to Hisham Elzanaty, an investor in the Islamic center site.

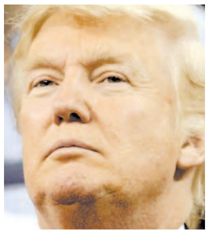
And then Wolodymyr Starosolsky, a lawyer representing Elzanaty, turned down Trump's offer, calling it "just a cheap attempt to get publicity and get in the limelight."

"I am making this offer as a resident of New York and citizen of the United States, not because I think the location is a spectacular one {because it is not], but because it will end a very serious, inflammatory, and highly divisive situation that is destined, in my opinion, to only get worse," Trump wrote.

Trump further stipulated, as part of the offer, that if a mosque is to be built, "it would be located at least five blocks further from the World Trade Center site."

Trump offered to pay cash for the site "with an immediate closing."

"Hopefully, something good can happen," he said.


Trump

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kyles files

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ROCK THE CROCS?

'Memba when I wrote a fashion fines column suggesting a $10 penalty per wear for peeps sporting Crocs at work? Well, a rep for the shoe company sent me three models of Crocs to see if she could change my mind about their, um, aesthetic.

Hit **redeye chicago.com/ kylesfiles** and vote in my poll: Do Crocs rock or not?

CORRECTION

A column in the Sept. 9 RedEye sports section incorrectly identified NFL quarterback Brett Favre's team. He plays for Minnesota.

Kanye, stay focused, stay in your seat

Kanye West's heart must be heavier than the Horus chain he rocks.

Early this week, this son of the South Side poured out his regrets, 140 characters at a time, in an impassioned plea for pop clemency in the Taylor Swift mic grab seen 'round the world. This occurred just days before the one-year anniversary of his a-hat conduct at the MTV Video Music Awards.

It may seem strange for West to be so emotional about the incident a year later. Some suspect the superstar rapper is trying to curry favor before his performance Sunday at the VMAs. I'm sure that's part of it.

But based on the length of his self-imposed exile, telling lyrics in his hit "Power" and general good behavior of late, I believe West meant at least 90 percent of his remorseful tweets.

Still, old habits die hard, and clowning at awards shows is as much a part of West as his undeniable production and lyrical skill. There is always the possibility he could experience a "Groundhog Day" MTV moment and end up wresting the spotlight from another overrated young'un, such as, I dunno, his latest collaborator, Justin Bieber.

I know the world cannot afford another "I'ma-Let-You-Finish" fit, so here's how West can avoid another fall from pop grace:

Don't drink

Doubtless, the Champagne will be flowing faster than it does in a Jim Jones video, but it's best to stick to juice come Sunday. If you're truly tempted to tip back something bubbly, I suggest ginger ale with a slice of lime.

Talk to your date—especially during the presentation of awards

Perhaps if you aren't fully tuned in to the proceedings, you won't feel the level of outrage that would lead you to storm the stage uninvited. Believe me, I understand how painful it is to watch artistic injustice in action. It takes all I have sometimes to keep from breaking into local radio stations to excise Plies, Soulja Boy and Wacka Flocka from their playlists. But you must abstain.

Stay off Twitter

Leave any and all handheld devices in your car. Scratch that. Put them in a safe at one of your homes. Sending a rude observation via tweet from your seat isn't as bad as stage-crashing, but it still could damage your current rep resurrection.

Feel free to flee

Once you've performed, don't be afraid to hit ESC if the pressure to speak out overpowers you. Just hop in the back of your limo, activate the flat-screen TV and occupy yourself with watching Beyonce's "Single Ladies" video while your driver puts the ceremony in the rear-view. After all, it was one of the best videos of all time, right 'Ye?

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Emanuel
GETTY IMAGES

Handicapping Emanuel

Obama praises him, but others see some weaknesses if he runs for mayor

Chicago Tribune

President Obama strongly praised but stopped short of endorsing his chief of staff Rahm Emanuel on Thursday for mayor of Chicago. But while the bare-knuckled veteran of Democratic politics reportedly is weighing a mayoral bid, observers say he would bring assets and liabilities to a campaign.

The Chicago-born Emanuel, 50, has high name identification, formidable campaign experience and hard-core fundraising muscle. All make him a viable candidate, but he's far from a shoo-in in light of a crowded field likely to attract whites, African-Americans, Hispanics and lakefront liberals.

In light of the size of the field—as well as what some dub Emanuel's "baggage"—potential rivals were not ceding turf. And Obama's enthusiasm for Emanuel, whom the president said would be "an excellent mayor ...a terrific mayor," did little to scare them off.

Emanuel, through his spokeswoman, turned down an interview request Thursday, which was the Jewish holy day of Rosh Hashanah.

U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley, who represents Emanuel's old congressional district, is among those who may give the race a go. He said Thursday that Emanuel is "a very smart guy" and "as politically astute as anyone in the universe."

Quigley said one question about Emanuel looms large: "What have you run? Have you run anything that compares to running a corporation the size of the city of Chicago?"

Another potential candidate is U.S. Rep. Danny Davis. He said Thursday he had not ruled out a bid. He wasn't overly impressed with Obama's praise, saying it was normal for a boss to praise a staffer. "Rahm, if he wants to run, he can come to town and raise money and run and run and run and run, but the local people of Chicago are going to determine who their next mayor is, not Barack Obama and not Rahm Emanuel," Davis said.

Obama, in an interview with ABC, said Emanuel's decision about whether to run likely wouldn't come until after Nov. 2 midterm elections. That's less than three weeks before the hopeful must declare his candidacy and submit a minimum of 12,500 valid signatures from registered voters.

U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., who also may run, told CNN Thursday that Emanuel will "be running on his two years as chief of staff," Jackson said, citing high unemployment among several issues.

"We don't want someone anointed from the outside," Jackson said, adding that Emanuel hasn't spent much time in Chicago of late.

Sayers charity not 'on track'

Bears great says he intends to build center

Chicago Tribune

A charity founded in 2006 by legendary Bears running back Gale Sayers has collected more than $581,000 in contributions yet failed to fulfill its stated mission to open a state-of-the-art facility offering after-school programs to Chicago children.

Though a fundraising booklet promised that the Gale Sayers Center would open in 2008, the charity has not yet bought or leased property for the facility, which also was to hold a National Football League film library and a 60-seat theater.

The organization's most recent tax return reported $181,721 in assets, while most of the rest of the funds went to salaries, management and unsuccessful efforts to site the facility, tax records from 2007-09 show.

Meanwhile, the dismissal of the charity's executive director about a year and half ago and a complete turnover of its board of directors—except for Sayers—has led to a sense of turmoil in the organization.

"We were like in quicksand," said Dean Kleinschmidt, the athletic trainer for the Detroit Lions, who resigned from the board this year. "We never really got on track."

Sayers said he still hopes to build the center and that for the last year his charity has paid instructors to teach classes three afternoons a week at a center run by the Better Boys Foundation, a nonprofit whose board includes Sayers and his wife, Ardythe. Tax records show that Sayers' charity spent $46,224 on the classes in 2009.

Current board members say the charity merely has experienced growing pains and vow it will be a success. A celebrity gala dinner is scheduled for Sept. 25 in Niles.

"We are not an extremely large organization at this point but ... we are really trying to make sure that we are doing everything that is important to ensuring that the center is successful and that it is providing the best environment to children," said Erric Byrd, who said he joined the board of directors this year and is its current president.

> "If something happens to my child and he dies,
> I don't want that to be the first time he sees God."
>
> —Victor Sarmiento, who reached an agreement with his wife after a bitter two-year custody battle. His estranged wife, Lizette Perez, signed a custody agreement Thursday at the Daley Center that would allow him to baptize his son, 3, in the Roman Catholic Church. Perez will be allowed to name the child's godmother.

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FITNESS FORMULA CLUBS

Children skate Thursday at the John Hancock Observatory on a synthetic ice surface. HEATHER CHARLES/ TRIBUNE

Skating in the sky

Hancock adds synthetic ice rink

Ice skating without ice. It's possible.

Beginning in January, anyone not afraid of heights will be able to skate around a synthetic ice rink on the 94th floor of the John Hancock Center, more than 1,000 feet off the ground.

The Hancock Observatory has dubbed it "the world's highest ice skating rink."

The synthetic ice, which isn't cold or even water-based, is supposed to have a softer feel to it. And it's white.

If the altitude is too much—or if that's what you say when trying to explain your numerous falls—the rink's technology is supposed to make for fewer injuries. There also will be 10-inch cushions around the rink, which is next to the windows that overlook Lake Shore Drive.

The rink will cover a 20-by-50-foot spot inside the observatory at the Hancock, 875 N. Michigan Ave. The observatory is open 365 days a year.

A 25-minute skating session will cost $5 (plus an extra $1 if you need skates), in addition to admission to the observatory, which goes for $10 to $15.

Ryan seeks release from prison

George Ryan's ailing wife, breathing with the aid of a portable oxygen tank, came to federal court Thursday as lawyers for the former governor make another push for his release from prison, this time citing the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision to limit the "honest services" fraud law.

Dan Webb, Ryan's lawyer, told reporters later that the former governor's release from federal prison is urgent because his wife, Lura Lynn, has only "one, two, three years to live."

U.S. District Judge Rebecca Pallmeyer, who presided over Ryan's trial and sentenced him to 6 1/2 years in prison, set a hearing for Nov. 1.

Ryan, 76, has served almost three years in prison and is scheduled to be released July 4, 2013, U.S. Bureau of Prisons records show.

Lura Lynn Ryan, looking frail, attended the routine court hearing a little more than a week after lawyers for her husband filed for his release.

Documents filed by Webb indicated that Lura Lynn Ryan suffers from pulmonary fibrosis, a lung disease, as well as hypertension, high cholesterol levels, arterial sclerosis, low thyroid function, severe osteoporosis and other ailments—"conditions that make treatment of the pulmonary fibrosis difficult," the defense said.

In the latest bid for Ryan's release, his lawyers cited the Supreme Court's dismissal of former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling's conviction. The high court found the controversial law, which is based on the public's intangible right to the honest services of officials, unconstitutionally vague and determined that violations must include acts of bribery or kickbacks.

Webb told Pallmeyer that the finding should undo Ryan's racketeering and mail fraud convictions. He argued that Ryan has essentially served out his sentence on other counts on which he was convicted.

Chicago man accused of being 'polite bandit'

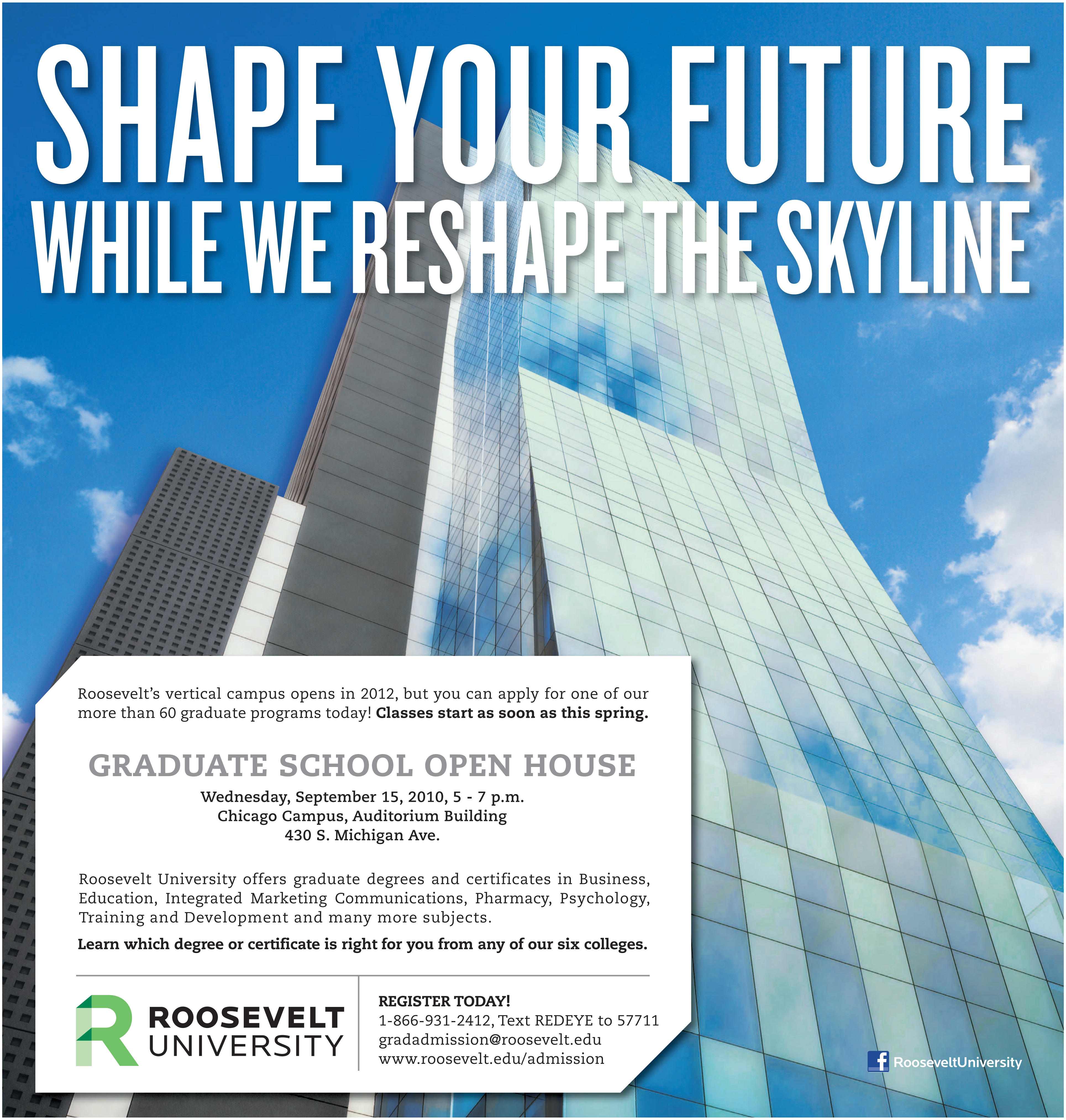
Police say a Chicago man is the "polite bandit" who repeatedly apologized to a woman while burglarizing her Skokie home last month. Jake C. Smith, 41, of the 5500 block South Princeton Street, is charged with felony home invasion in an Aug. 27 break-in, Skokie police said. Smith also has been charged with two other home burglaries in Skokie, according to police.

Son of peace activist slain

Darryl Jackson has worked with community groups to stop the violence in his South Chicago neighborhood. On Wednesday, his own son was gunned down in an alley on his way home from Bowen High School. "You shouldn't have to shelter your child to walk two blocks home from school," Jackson said, shaking his head. "It's tragic, not just for me and my family, but for the community because I work with different people on trying to stop the violence."

2 arrested, 1 sought in child prostitution ring

Two Chicago men were arrested Thursday while a third man was being sought in connection with a child prostitution ring that was centered on the West Side, according to the FBI. Datqunn Sawyer, 31, was arrested by FBI agents and police detectives in the 5300 block of West Potomac Avenue. Two other men, Waymond Orr, 30, and Kevin Sharp, 51, each were charged with felony pandering in Cook County Criminal Court. Sharp was arrested while Orr remains on the lam.



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GETTY IMAGES FILE

No 'tall' at drive-through

Starbucks is dropping its smallest size coffee, the 12-ounce "tall," from its drive-through menus throughout the country, a move the company maintains is an effort to redesign the drive-through menu to make it easier to understand.

U.S. soldiers charged

1 Twelve U.S. soldiers face a variety of charges in what military authorities believe was a conspiracy to murder Afghan civilians and cover it up, along with charges they used hashish, mutilated corpses and kept grisly souvenirs.

Iran to release American

2 Iran soon will release Sarah Shourd, one of three detained American citizens accused of espionage, an Iranian official at the U.N. said Thursday. Shourd was detained along with Shane Bauer and Josh Fattal near Iran's border with Iraq at the end of July 2009.

Weather helps firefighters

3 The weather has helped firefighters make progress against a raging wildfire in the mountains west of Boulder, Colo., but high winds forecast for Thursday could whip up the blaze again, authorities said.

Mayor slain in his office

4 A town mayor was gunned down and killed in his office Wednesday afternoon in Mexico, state and federal officials said. Alexander Lopez Garcia was elected mayor of El Naranjo, in San Luis Potosi state, in 2009.

THE DIGIT

36% That's the percentage of Americans who think the country is safer from terrorism than it was before the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, according to a CNN/Opinion Research Corporation survey.

'Don't ask, don't tell' ruled unconstitutional

5 **RIVERSIDE, Calif.** A federal judge in Riverside declared the U.S. military's ban on openly gay service members unconstitutional Thursday, saying the "don't ask, don't tell" policy violates the First Amendment rights of lesbians and gay men.

U.S. District Court Judge Virginia A. Phillips said the policy banning gays did not preserve military readiness, contrary to what many supporters have argued, saying evidence shows that the policy in fact had a "direct and deleterious effect" on the military.

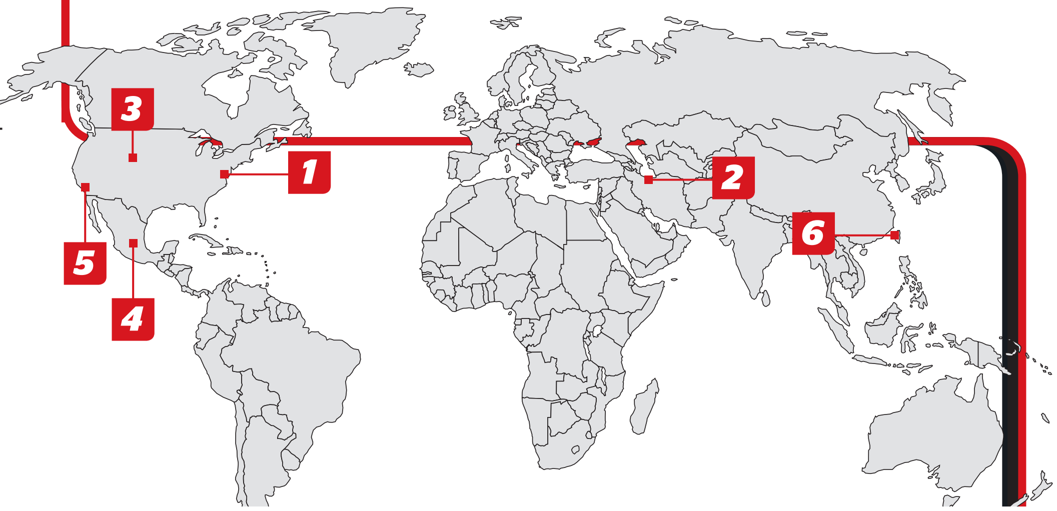
Phillips said she would issue an injunction barring the government from enforcing the policy.

However, the U.S. Department of Justice, which defended "don't ask, don't tell" during a two-week trial in Riverside, will have an opportunity to appeal that decision.

The ruling comes little more than a month after a federal judge in San Francisco tossed out California's voter-approved ban on same-sex marriage, providing back-to-back victories for gay rights advocates seeking policy changes in the courts that have eluded them in Congress and at the ballot box. The case was filed by the Log Cabin Republicans, the largest political organization for gays in the GOP, in 2004.

Husbands and wives

6 A couple kisses during a mass wedding ceremony Thursday in Taipei, Taiwan. The ceremony, which included 163 couples, was held on the ninth day of the ninth month of the 99th year since the founding of Taiwan. Nine is considered an auspicious number in Chinese culture. **REUTERS**



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MADDENING 2010

THE VIRTUAL VERDICT IS IN, AND IT'S NOT GOOD NEWS FOR THE BEARS

XBOX 360
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RP
NFL PLAYERS

By Ryan Smith
FOR REDEYE

It looks like Jay Cutler won't cut it in 2010, and neither will the rest of the Bears. The Bears will enjoy a midseason hot streak to temporarily fill the sails of Windy City fans, but ultimately they will stumble to a 7-9 finish and miss the playoffs. That's according to a full simulation of the upcoming season conducted by RedEye using the franchise mode on "Madden '11" for Xbox 360.

Video games might not be as reliable of a prognosticator as, say, the World Cup's Paul the Psychic Octopus, but game sims do have a decent track record of reliability. EA Sports' "Madden" has correctly predicted six of the last seven Super Bowl winners and 2K's NHL game correctly chose the Blackhawks as Stanley Cup winners earlier this season.

Here are the highlights (and lowlights) of the virtual Bears season.

ACTUAL GAMEDAY
Bears vs. Detroit
Noon Sunday, Fox

SEPTEMBER

Whoa, ominous tidings, dude. At the end of the preseason the Bears lose two members of the already shaky offensive line to injury. It's OK, Lovie Smith can coach his way out of this hole, right? Maybe not, because "Madden '11" has Smith's coach rating listed at a subpar 73. We just hope he doesn't have to get into a chess match with Indianapolis Colts coach Jim Caldwell (coach rating: 86). Yikes.

Things go from bad to worse when the Bears open the season 0-2, dropping close ones to Detroit and Dallas. The good news is Cutler and crew finally pull one out against Green Bay in Week 3. The bad news? It was against backup quarterback Marc Bulger, replacing an injured Aaron Rodgers.

OCTOBER

Read it and weep: The Mike Martz offense looks downright anemic in back-to-back losses to the N.Y. Giants and Carolina, and Charles Tillman is out for three weeks with an injury. The Bears are suddenly 1-3 and two games behind Detroit (gasp!) in the standings. Thankfully, before the panic switch is officially thrown, the Bears hang 35 points—and a win—on Seattle and pound Washington at home.

NOVEMBER

Rookie free safety Major Wright is a major right with a pick-six in a 20-10 victory against Buffalo. And, wait, what's this? Cutler throws for four TDs and Matt Forte scores three times in a 52-20 rout of Minnesota. Then the Bears upend the Dolphins for a five-game winning streak. They're suddenly tied with Minnesota for first in the NFC North. It's a feeling that even a 7-3 loss to Philadelphia in Week 12 can't fully deflate.

DECEMBER AND JANUARY

It's Bears science: What comes up must come down, and the season comes crashing to Earth. The Bears drop four of their last five games, and that includes a humiliating season sweep to Matthew Stafford and Detroit. The Bears beat the N.Y. Jets in Week 16 but limp to a 7-9 record with a season-ending thumping by Green Bay.

Cutler ends up with a slightly improved 2010 with 3,514 yards passing and a 79.7 rating, but Forte disappoints by failing to get to the 1,000-yard mark and averages only 3.5 yards a carry.

Sigh. Perhaps we need a strong dose of reality to escape the depressing fantasy world of video games after all. **RYAN SMITH IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR**

All is not lost —but close

sacked again

BAG BOY
redeyesports @tribune.com

As we begin the final year of the Lovie Smith era, it's time for the annual Bears preview.

This year, I'm what they call "cautiously optimistic."

I've got them at a rock-solid 4-12. Yes, this is the year the Detroit Lions finally overtake the Bears and we fall to our rightful home at the bottom.

Oh, don't worry, it's temporary. This has to happen for things to get better. It's the only way Ted Phillips, Jerry Angelo and Lovie Smith leave town. Together. On one horse.

Let's recap quickly how we got here: No offensive line, average (that means you, Devin Hester) receivers. A head case for a quarterback. I gave him a pass last year. This year, brutal truth time.

Defense: Great linebackers, everything else is wait-and-see. Doesn't sound like enough. It isn't.

Here are your four wins: Week 1 at home against Detroit, Week 6 at home against Seattle, Week 7 at home against Washington (that's two wins in a row but don't fall for it—they're horrible). Week 9 at Buffalo (Wow. Three in a row—playoffs!). And ... that's it. The Packers, Vikings, Giants, Jets, Patriots, Dolphins and Eagles—everybody owns these guys.

And they should. Green Bay is miles ahead of this team. Even the Vikings with a 40-year-old Favre can beat the Bears up.

All right. I'll give you a "sweet" win to make it 5-11. Week 10: Vikings at Chicago. That's their fourth in a row and last of the season. Unfortunately, that's the one that gives you hope for this year and next year. Don't buy it. I have, and look what it has done to me.

Look at the upside: We say goodbye to Lovie and his lame news conferences. Lovie, your average toll booth attendant has more personality.

We say goodbye to Angelo. Maybe no more blown first-, second- and third-round picks.

Finally, a fond farewell to Phillips. Ted: Around the league, they're laughing at you. In Forbes magazine—and everywhere else—the secret is out: You're incompetent.

So long, stooges, you won't be missed.

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In the game

How did Walter get here? He just answered these questions on **redeyechicago.com/5on5**. You can do it too.

TOPIC	**PHIL THOMPSON** **plthompson@tribune.com**	**TRACY SWARTZ** **twitter.com/tracyswartz**	**CHRIS SOSA** **chsosa@tribune.com**	**SOXMAN** **twitter.com/thesoxman72**	**WALTER BRZESKI** **redeyechicago.com/5on5**
1 What's your prediction for the Bears season opener?	Calvin Johnson leaves the game to play Megatron in a "Transformers" re-shoot.	I'd be Lion if I didn't think both teams are in trouble.	Jay Cutler will need a morphine drip afterward.	A new stat will be tracked for Jay Cutler: S.I.R. (sack-to-interception ratio).	Score: Bears 33, Lions 30 in OT. Beer: $8.
2 If the Bears lose to Detroit ...	... the coaches get fired and have to work at Wal-Martz.	... everyone should bail out now.	... Julius Peppers will trade himself to a better team, like Oakland.	... the Lions' running game was proven to be (Jahvid) Best.	... Lovie will say, "It's still early, we'll rebound." (Something Lovie will say nine more times this season.)
3 What should Julius Peppers' sack celebration be?	The Peppers Shaker. C'mon.	A cigarette. Isn't that how the kids celebrate post-sacks?	A dance set to "Whatta Man."	The Sack 'N Pepper Shaker followed by a simulated sneeze.	The Snoopy Dance to the tune of "I'm a Pepper, You're a Pepper."
4 What could go wrong when the Bears, Sox and Cubs play at the same time Sunday?	The city could implode from simultaneous sucktitude.	The Bermuda Triangle would suck you in and you'd be lost at C.	In the event of an apocalypse, no one's left to carry the banner of biggest underachiever.	The Bears strike out, the Sox are sacked and the Cubs lose by a TD.	Not enough beer vendors to go around.
5 What could Reggie Bush use to replace the Heisman if it's taken from him?	Well, he already had a plastic trophy in Kim Kardashian.	Integrity. Or a trophy wife—only if it's plastic.	An Aston Martin.	Bronzing of a certain Kim Kardashian body part would be known as the "Hindsman."	The Cubs/Sox BP Crosstown trophy, if anybody can find it.

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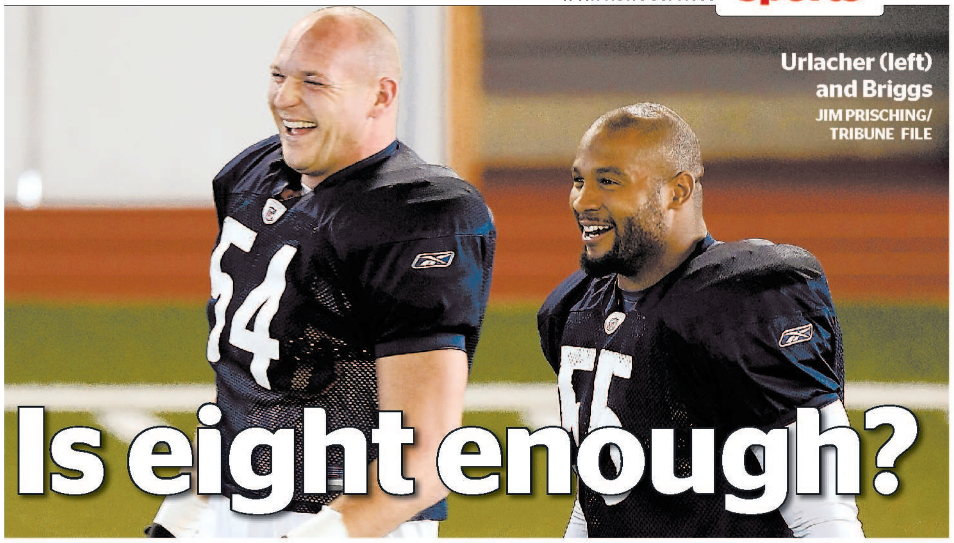

Is eight enough?

Urlacher (left) and Briggs
JIM PRISCHING/ TRIBUNE FILE

Chicago Tribune

Brian Urlacher and Lance Briggs are preparing to begin their eighth season next to each other in the middle of the Bears' defense.

It's uncommon for players to be teammates for that long in the NFL and rare for them to be playing alongside one another. The question has been whispered for a few years and now you're hearing it a little more audibly: Is time running out on this group?

"We don't talk about if the window's closing or how much longer we're going to play or be together or anything like that," said Urlacher, 32.

The middle linebacker missed all but the first half of the opener at Green Bay with his wrist injury last season, so Sunday's game is significant for him. Briggs, who will turn 30 in November and has been named to the past five Pro Bowls, says he feels 21.

"I don't know how long a guy can or can't play," said Briggs, who was limited in practice with his sprained ankle. "When guys hit a certain age people start to think that they're on the down side of things. But I'm out there every day with guys. In some cases maybe that is true, but the guys that I've been around—outside of some aches and pains—these guys seem fine."

NFL OPENER

New Orleans 14, Minnesota 9

Brady back after crash

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was involved in a car accident Thursday morning in Boston, but he was unhurt and was with the team at practice later in the day. The Patriots confirmed the news on their Twitter feed and added that Brady was not hospitalized.

FOUR SCORE

Every week before the Bears game, RedEye's crew gets to the point.

BRIAN MOORE
@redeyesportsguy

Bears 23, Detroit 16

This is the biggest game of the season, no lie. Lose this one, and we're talking about a historically bad Bears team.

ERNEST WILKINS
@remixchicago

Bears 14, Detroit 10

It's the dawn of the Aromashodu Era, people! Can you smell it? CAN YOU SMELL THE AROMA-SHODU!?!

CHRIS SOSA
@sayitissosa

Bears 31, Detroit 20

Peppers lights up Matthew Stafford twice. Who needs Alex Brown?

BAG BOY
redeyesports@tribune.com

Bears 28, Detroit 13

The Lions are closing the gap, but Bears escape this time.

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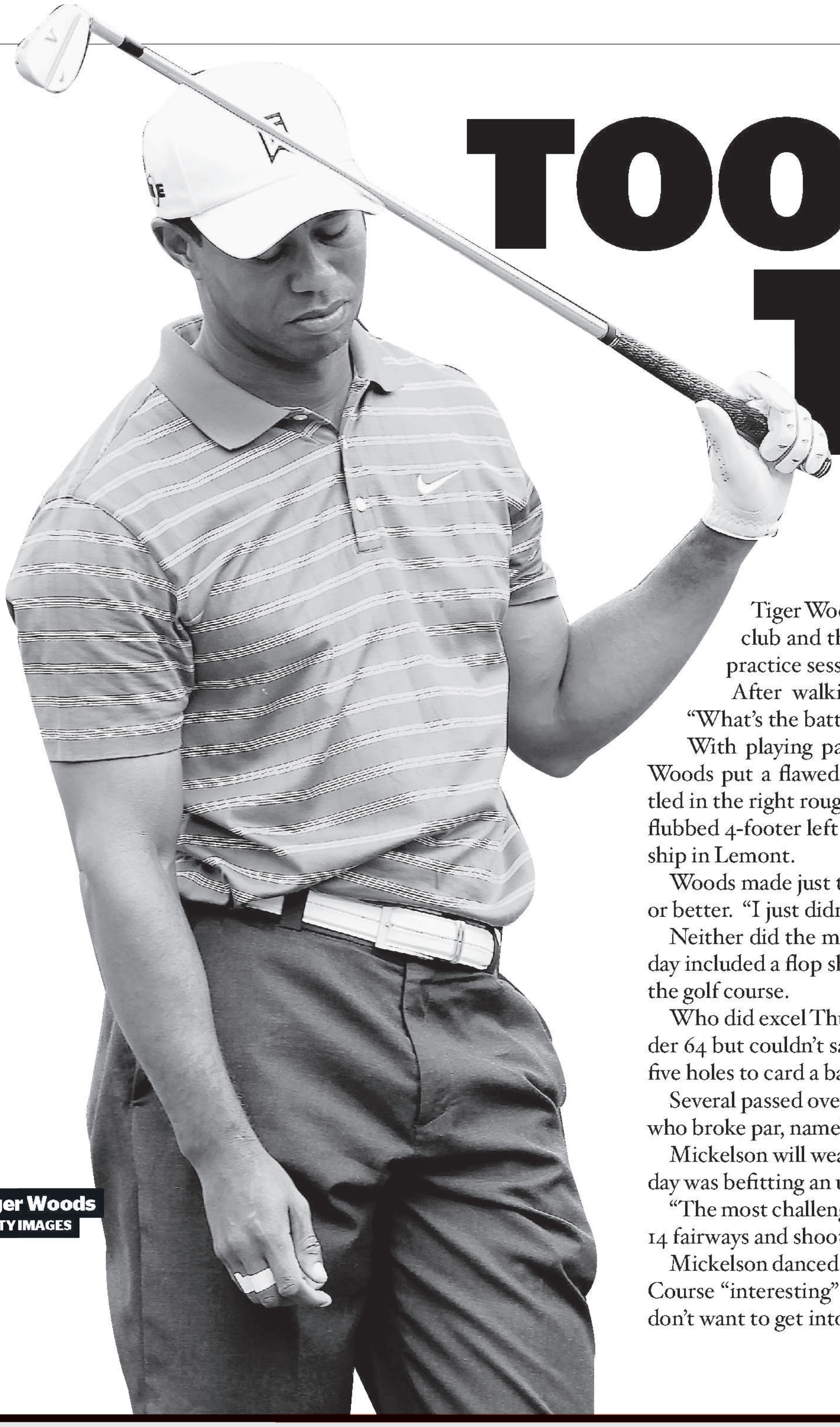
Kevin Durant scored 33 points and the U.S. beat Russia 89-79 on Thursday to move within two wins of its first basketball world championship since 1994.

The Bulls named Ron Adams, Andy Greer, Rick Brunson and Adrian Griffin assistant coaches under new coach Tom Thibodeau on Thursday. Randy Brown was named special assistant to general manager Gar Forman, and Pete Myers was named a scout.

Dayton will be the host city for the four first-round games in the newly expanded NCAA men's basketball tournament in 2011, the NCAA announced Thursday. Chicago will showcase second- and third-round games.



Tiger Woods
GETTY IMAGES

TOOTHLESS TIGER

WOODS STUMBLES AT COG HILL

BMW CHAMPIONSHIP
2-5 p.m. Friday,
Golf Channel

Tiger Woods hammered a low, drawing 3-wood, twirled his club and then gave swing guru Sean Foley a fist bump. His practice session was complete.

After walking to the first tee, Woods asked an official: "What's the batting order today?"

With playing partner K.J. Choi waiting in the on-deck circle, Woods put a flawed swing on that same 3-wood, and his drive settled in the right rough just 231 yards away. A so-so approach, followed by a heavy bunker shot and flubbed 4-footer left Woods 2-over par before he could catch his breath at the BMW Championship in Lemont.

Woods made just three birdies Thursday, killing his Cog Hill run of 11 consecutive rounds at 68 or better. "I just didn't have much today," he said after shooting a 2 over 73.

Neither did the man officially ranked one spot lower than Woods, Phil Mickelson. His bizarre day included a flop shot from almost the middle of the 15th green and several thinly veiled rips on the golf course.

Who did excel Thursday? Matt Kuchar, the man atop of the FedEx Cup points list, fired a 7-under 64 but couldn't say much about it because of a case of laryngitis. Ryan Moore birdied his final five holes to card a back-nine record 29 that puts him within one shot of Kuchar.

Several passed over for the European and U.S. Ryder Cup teams also were among the 26 players who broke par, namely Justin Rose (68), Paul Casey (69), Anthony Kim (70) and Nick Watney (70).

Mickelson will wear the Stars and Stripes on his sleeve next month in Wales, but his play Thursday was befitting an ugly American. Of course, it's hard to play on a course you disdain.

"The most challenging thing for me," Mickelson told a handful of reporters after hitting seven of 14 fairways and shooting a 1-over 72, "is mentally getting up for playing here."

Mickelson danced around a few questions, at first calling the Rees Jones-renovated "Dubsdread" Course "interesting" and replying to whether he considered not coming to Chicago this way: "I don't want to get into that. You've gotten me going already more than I probably should."

FINAL SCORE

» Rush name former Driscoll Catholic High School football coach Gene Nudo new president and general manager.

» Detroit 6, White Sox 3. Sox 6 games back in AL Central.

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Out dated

Think it's tough finding love in Chicago? Look at what the stats say about romantic notions

By Kyra Kyles
REDEYE

"Sex and the City"-loving ladies, raise your glasses.

"Entourage"-empathizing dudes, ice your nearest bro. A week uplifting the unattached is coming soon to a calendar near you.

That's right, y'all. Sept. 19 to 25 is officially National Unmarried and Single Americans week—a commemoration cooked up by the Buckeye Singles Council back in the '80s to fete single men and women for their contributions to society and currently sponsored by Unmarried America, an information service for the unwed.

Chicago is a wonderful city for singles, according to local matchmaker Rachel Canis of Best Foot Forward dating concierge service.

"In Chicago, there are tons of events, and so you get a lot of exposure to a lot of different people," said Canis, whose Loop-based business helps singles with details from pumping up their profiles to matching them up. "If you know where to go, you can meet people"

Canis said she thinks Chicago sometimes gets the short shrift on rankings that don't place it near the top cities for dating.

Consider: We didn't even make the list of a recent The "Top 10 Cities for the Unhitched" compiled by the SingleMindedWomen blog. What, beaten out by Austin, Washington, D.C., and Phoenix? Seriously?

Sounds like a challenge to us, so RedEye decided to take a look at the state of the singletons in Chicago.

We reviewed common myths about the local dating scene—including opportunities to mix and mingle, male-to-female ratio and livability in the city—with help from sources including U.S. Census figures crunched by the Metro Chicago Information Center as well as surveys and anecdotal evidence from **okcupid.com**.

Check out how some of the single mythologies stack up against a hodgepodge of dating-related data:

PREMISE:

Chicago is a sedentary city. It's unlikely I'll meet my mate working out or strolling around a park.

STATS SAY: Umm, awkward. There seems to be truth to this romantic rumor. Chicagoland scored a dismal No. 33 spot in the most recent American Fitness Index rankings released in June. The American College of Sports Medicine ranks cities and their surrounding suburbs based on a set of criteria that includes smoking rates, playgrounds per capita, access to fitness resources and weather that accommodates outdoor workouts. Washington, D.C., topped this year's list, with Boston, Minneapolis, Seattle and Denver rounding out the top five, respectively. To give you an idea of the difference between D.C. and Chi-town's ranking, the nation's capital offered parkland that covers 19.4 percent of city land compared with Chicago, which offers only 8.2 percent of parkland as a percentage of city land, according to the American Fitness Index data.

MINUTE RICE
MINUTE
Post

PREMISE:

A lot of Chicago males seem to be living in their moms' basements instead of striking out on their own. Women without families are running their own households at a much higher rate than men.

STATS SAY: Well, RedEye couldn't exactly conduct a basement check, but there could be truth to that perception that women are doing it for themselves. About 416,000 of women are the head of a non-family household without a spouse. Compare that with about 285,000 men who do the same and it's a ratio of nearly 1.5 to 1, according to 2010 U.S. Census estimates from Weseman. The national ratio is approximately 1.1 to 1 with about 19.7 million women householders to approximately 17.9 million male householders, Weseman's data dig revealed.

MOVIES
John Cena tells RedEye about tackling a dramatic role. ***page 26***

FOOD
Chicago contestant on 'Top Chef' spinoff is sweet on desserts. ***page 36***

MUSIC
Find out what's on tap for live music this weekend and beyond. ***page 41***

PREMISE:

Chicago, with its inhospitable winters and steamy summers, isn't exactly attracting all the singles to the shores of Lake Michigan.

STATS SAY: Sure, we have a somewhat inclement environment, but Chi-town is still among the tops when it comes to attracting new residents. "The one great thing about the city is that we're used to bad winters so we don't go hide indoors when the weather is bad like in some other cities," OKCupid CEO and co-founder Sam Yagan said. "And when it is nice out in the summer, Chicagoans pretty much live outside so there are that many more opportunities to meet people." The city also was ranked 24th best in a recent **askmen.com** poll of most 29 livable locales. Yes, it's a bit of a topple from our No. 1 ranking in 2009, but hey ... gotta give the other metro areas a chance.

TRIBUNE FILE PHOTOS

PREMISE:

Unmarried women outnumber the men by a landslide. A woman seeking a man is more likely to see a winter without snow than find an available male in all this madness.

STATS SAY: Relax, that bitter girlfriend of yours might be distorting the romantic realities. There are approximately 113.5 unmarried women for every 100 unmarried males ages 15 and up, according to Metro Chicago Information Center spokeswoman Emily Weseman, who crunched U.S. Census 2010 estimates specific to Chicago. That translates to 1.13 women for every one man—not exactly a matchup mission impossible.

PREMISE:

Chicago is a Midwestern mecca for gay, lesbian and bisexual singles.

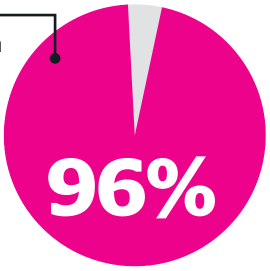
STATS SAY: Yes and no, depending on which sets of stats you scour. OKCupid found Chicago ranked No. 10 on its most recent list of LGBT-friendliest cities, according to 100,000 survey respondents. No. 1 was a tie between San Francisco and Portland, with Seattle sliding into second and San Jose rounding out the top three. However, a recent Tribune/WGN poll reflected some contrasting notions about same-sex marriage and civil unions in both the suburbs and Chicago. Approximately 54 percent of suburbanites favored legalizing same-sex civil unions, compared with approximately 33 percent who would oppose this kind of law. Adding city residents to the poll didn't significantly alter those results, according to the phone poll of 800 male and female heads of households in the six-county Chicago area. Votes were more split when it came to same-sex marriage with 42 percent opposing, 42 percent supporting and 15 percent who expressed no opinion, the poll revealed.

SINGLE DIGITS

Making connections

Engaged couples are matching up via the Internet as often as they are through mutual friends. A number of singles see Twitter and Facebook as date-finding tools. These and other findings are the result of a survey online from dating profile and matchmaking consultant Best Foot Forward conducted this year to get a bead on what the unattached are feeling and thinking these days. More results by the numbers. **KYRA KYLES, REDEYE**

That's the percentage of men between the ages of 23 and 56 who preferred a partner with more relationship experience and sexual experience rather than less.



2
Number of dates by which partners usually are hooking up, though some stretched out to a month of dates.

500 « Number of singles solicited for the survey

Milla breathes more life into 'Evil'

Reuters

There's no killing off Alice, Milla Jovovich's resilient character in the "Resident Evil" films.

She's back in theaters Friday with "Resident Evil: Afterlife," the fourth installment of the successful video game-to-film horror franchise—only this time she's in 3-D.

In the latest film, Alice helps save survivors of a virus that has ravaged Earth and turned some people into zombies and other creatures.

During San Diego Comic-Con in July, the model-turned-actress talked about what makes the "Resident Evil" movies successful and the challenges of kicking zombie butts in 3-D.

What is it about these films that have succeeded where so many Hollywood video game adaptations have failed?

"Resident Evil" has always been an independent movie, which I think is very special about it. It's not a studio concoction. We started as a tiny, little European action film, and everybody involved, Paul, myself and Michelle Rodriguez, were into the game. That was the birth of this franchise. It was just people who really love the games, who really love the characters and love to kick butt and take no prisoners, and girls enjoying taking on these tough parts. I think that translates to people.

In "Resident Evil" and "Tomb Raider," women have been the strong ones and they've done well as films, too. Why?

It's always great for women to be given strong parts and be believable in them. The fact that we are promoting the fourth film is a real testament to the passion we put into the movies and to the love, and the hard work, and the excitement we have filming them. It's just been such a fun ride.

What did having a larger budget with this fourth film open up creatively?

We were able to film in Tokyo, Los Angeles, Alaska and Toronto, which really gives the movie this big feeling that we never had in any of the films. All the other films always took place in one location. Because we were able to go to all these different places, it's very different visually and the stunts are just bigger, and the characters are just wonderful. You get a chance in this movie to take some time with characters. It's not just action, action, action.

What were the challenges of filming in 3-D?

Well, I got punched quite a few times on this one because you have to get closer because you can see now the distance and the depth. The viewer can see the fake punches in 3-D.

You're known for doing most of your own stunts. What stood out for you in this movie?

There's a lot of great wire work, which I love. I love to fly, to feel weightless.

Milla Jovovich
GETTY IMAGES

MOTION PICTURE DIRECTORY

♿ Handicapped Access ◆ Digital Sound ✔Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes 🦻 Hearing - Impaired

G - General audience PG - Parental guidence suggested PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)
600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily ♿

- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) 10:30,12:50,3:15,5:45,8:15,10:45
- **Going the Distance** (R) ◆ 12:30,3:00,5:30,8:00,10:35
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife** (R) ◆ 11:15,1:40,4:15,7:00,9:40
- **Takers** (PG–13) ◆ 11:30,2:00,4:45,7:30,10:10
- AMC Independent **The American** (R) 11:00,1:50,4:30,7:15,10:00
- **Eat Pray Love** (PG–13) 11:50,3:30,6:45,9:50
- **The Switch** (PG–13) 11:40,2:45,5:15,7:50,10:30
- **Inception** (PG–13) 10:45,2:30,6:15,9:30
- **The Other Guys** (PG–13) 11:20,2:15,5:00,7:40,10:20

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)
2828 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949

- **The Tillman Story** (R) 1:50,4:30,7:30,10:15
- **Mesrine: Public Enemy No. 1** (R) 4:25,10:00
- **Mesrine: Killer Instinct** (R) 1:40,7:20
- **Cairo Time** (PG) 1:55,4:10,7:40,9:50
- **Get Low** (PG–13) 1:40,4:15,7:10,9:55
- **The Kids Are All Right** (R) 1:30,4:20,7:00,10:10
- **Soul Kitchen** (NR) 1:45,4:35,7:15,9:40
- **I'm Still Here** (NR) 2:00,4:40,7:25,10:05

CITY NORTH 14 (REGAL)
2600 N. Western Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1642

- **Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps** (PG–13) Advance Tickets Available
- **Easy A** (PG–13) Advance Tickets Available
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) 12:00,12:15,2:30,2:45, 5:00,5:15,7:30,7:45,10:10,10:30
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife** (R) 1:30,4:10,6:50,9:30
- **Machete** (R) 12:30,1:00,3:20,4:00,6:20,7:00,9:20,10:00
- **Going the Distance** (R) 12:50,2:15,4:50,6:40,7:40,10:15
- **The American** (R) 12:20,3:00,5:30,7:55,10:20
- **Takers** (PG–13) 1:50,4:30,7:10,9:45
- **The Last Exorcism** (PG–13) 1:10,3:20,5:45,8:10,10:35
- **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG–13) 12:40,3:15,6:00,9:00
- **The Expendables** (R) 2:00,4:40,7:20,9:50
- **The Other Guys** (PG–13) 1:20,3:50,6:30,9:15
- **Inception** (PG–13) 3:30,9:40
- **The Twilight Saga: Eclipse** (PG–13) 12:05,3:10,6:10,9:10

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)
4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893

- **Resident Evil: Afterlife** (R) ★ 5:40,7:40,9:45
- **The American** (R) ★ 5:10,7:30,9:50
- **Eat Pray Love** (PG–13) 7:10,9:50
- **Inception** (PG–13) 7:00,10:00

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)
S. Cicero at 76th., Chicago
(888) AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) ◆ 10:15,12:45,3:15,5:45,8:15,11:00
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife** (R) ◆ 11:30,2:00,4:30,7:00,9:45
- **Going the Distance** (R) 11:45,2:10,4:45,7:15,9:40
- **Machete** (R) 10:25,11:25,12:55,1:55,3:25,4:25,5:50,6:50,8:20,9:20,10:50
- **Takers** (PG–13) ◆ 10:35,11:35,1:20,2:20,4:10,5:10,6:45,7:45,9:30,10:40
- **The Last Exorcism** (PG–13) 11:00,1:15,3:30,5:55,8:10,10:30
- **Piranha 3D** (R) 10:20,12:30,2:45,4:55,7:05,9:25
- **Lottery Ticket** (PG–13) ◆ 10:30,12:50,3:10,5:30,6:55,7:55,9:15,10:20
- **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) 10:45,1:30,4:15
- **Vampires Suck** (PG–13) 10:55,1:05,3:20,5:25,7:35,9:50
- **Despicable Me** (PG) 10:15,12:35,2:50,5:05,7:20,10:00
- **The Expendables** (R) 11:55,2:30,5:00,7:30,10:10

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 State Street
(312) 846-2800

- **Shadow of a Doubt** (PG) 6:00 P.M.
- **Exit Through the Gift Shop** (R) 6:15,8:00
- **Made in China** (NR) 8:15 P.M.

LOGAN THEATRE
2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628

- **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG–13) 1:00,3:10,5:20,7:30,9:50
- **Salt** (PG–13) 1:00,3:15,5:15,7:25,9:35
- **Toy Story 3** (G) 1:15,3:20,5:30,7:40,9:40
- **Despicable Me** (PG) 12:55,2:40,4:30,6:30,8:20,10:05

MUSIC BOX
3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604

- **The Sicilian Girl** (NR) 4:30,7:20,9:40
- **Chicago United Film Festival 2010** (NR)
- **Judge Dredd** (R) 12:00 Midnight

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)
1608 N. Wells, Chicago
(888) AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- AMC Independent **Bran Nue Dae** (PG–13) 1:10,3:20,5:30,7:50,10:00
- AMC Independent **Mao's Last Dancer** (PG) 1:40,4:20,7:00,9:40
- AMC Independent **The Concert** (PG–13) 2:00,7:15
- AMC Independent **I Am Love** (R) 4:30,9:50
- **The Girl Who Played With Fire** (R) 1:00,3:45,6:30,9:20

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)
322 E. Illinois Street, Chicago
(888) AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) 10:00,11:00,12:40, 1:40,3:20,4:20,6:00,7:00,8:35,9:35,11:15,12:05
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife** (R) ◆ 11:45,2:30,5:00,7:30,10:15
- **Going the Distance** (R) 10:35,11:35,1:25,2:25,4:00, 5:00,7:05,8:05,10:05,11:05
- **Machete** (R) ◆ 11:15,2:00,4:45,7:30,10:20
- **Machete** (R) ◆ 11:15,2:00,4:45,7:30,10:20
- AMC Independent **The American** (R) ◆ 10:15,1:15,4:15,7:15,10:15
- **Takers** (PG–13) ◆ 10:20,11:20,1:10,2:10,4:05,5:05,6:50,7:50,9:30,10:30
- **The Last Exorcism** (PG–13) ◆ 10:25,12:55,3:30,6:10, 7:10,8:40,9:40,11:10
- **Piranha 3D** (R) 1:40,7:05,11:55
- **Lottery Ticket** (PG–13) 7:10,9:45
- **The Switch** (PG–13) 10:50,1:25,4:00,6:40,9:15,11:50
- **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) 10:05,12:50,3:25
- **Eat Pray Love** (PG–13) 10:00,1:15,4:25,7:45,10:55
- **The Expendables** (R) 10:40,1:20,4:10,6:55,9:35
- **The Other Guys** (PG–13) 10:45,1:30,4:20,7:00,9:50
- **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG–13) ◆ 10:30,1:20,4:05,7:20,10:00
- **Dinner for Schmucks** (PG–13) 11:10,2:00,4:55,7:40,10:20
- **Step Up 3D** (PG–13) 11:05,4:10,9:20
- **Inception** (PG–13) 10:10,1:35,4:50,8:05,11:20
- **Salt** (PG–13) 11:25,1:55,4:25,7:20,10:00
- **Despicable Me** (PG) 11:30,2:05,4:30

SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING (AMC)
7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #2309

- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) 11:00,11:50,1:40, 2:30,4:20,5:10,7:00,7:50,9:40,10:30,12:20,1:00
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife** (R) 10:15,12:45,3:25,6:05,8:45,11:25
- **Going the Distance** (R) 10:35,12:00,1:15,2:45,4:05, 5:30,6:50,8:15,9:35,11:05,12:15
- **Machete** (R) 10:50,1:35,4:30,7:20,10:10,12:45
- **Takers** (PG–13) 10:10,11:40,12:50,2:35,3:40,5:20,6:30,8:10, 9:20,11:10,12:10
- AMC Independent **The American** (R) 10:55,1:50,4:40,7:30,10:20,12:50
- **Piranha 3D** (R) 4:35,9:55
- **The Last Exorcism** (PG–13) 11:10,1:30,4:10,6:40, 8:00,9:10,10:40,11:40
- **The Switch** (PG–13) 11:05,1:45,7:15,12:35
- **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) 11:30,2:20,5:05
- **Eat Pray Love** (PG–13) 10:00,1:05,4:25,7:40,11:00
- **The Expendables** (R) 10:00,12:25,3:10,5:55,8:40,11:20
- **The Other Guys** (PG–13) 10:40,1:25,4:15,7:10,10:00,12:40
- **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG–13) 12:40,5:50,11:15
- **Inception** (PG–13) 10:05,1:20,4:50,8:20,11:50
- **Salt** (PG–13) 10:10,3:20,8:30

WEBSTER PLACE 11 (REGAL)
1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641

- **Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps** (PG–13) Advance Tickets Available
- **Easy A** (PG–13) Advance Tickets Available
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10
- **The American** (R) 12:00,2:30,5:00,7:30,10:00
- **Going the Distance** (R) 12:20,1:30,2:45,4:00,5:15,6:30, 7:45,9:10,10:15
- **Machete** (R) 12:10,2:50,5:20,8:00,10:30
- **Takers** (PG–13) 2:10,4:40,7:15,9:45
- **The Last Exorcism** (PG–13) 1:40,3:50,6:00,8:10,10:20
- **The Switch** (PG–13) 1:20,4:15,7:00,9:30
- **Eat Pray Love** (PG–13) 12:15,3:15,6:15,9:15
- **The Other Guys** (PG–13) 1:45,4:20,7:10,9:40
- **Inception** (PG–13) 12:30,3:40,6:50,10:05

SHOWPLACE GALEWOOD 14 (AMC)
E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1646

- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) 11:45,2:15,4:45,7:15,9:45
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife** (R) 10:45,1:15,3:45,6:15,8:45
- **Going the Distance** (R) 10:55,1:35,4:10,6:50,9:25
- **Machete** (R) 11:25,1:55,4:40,7:25,10:10
- **Takers** (PG–13) 9:30,10:30,12:00,1:00,2:30,3:30,5:00,6:00, 7:30,8:30,10:00,11:00
- AMC Independent **The American** (R) 9:40,12:05,2:35,5:05,7:35,10:05
- **Lottery Ticket** (PG–13) 11:00,1:30,4:05,6:30,8:00,9:00,10:30
- **The Last Exorcism** (PG–13) 9:45,12:15,2:45,5:15,7:45,10:15
- **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) 10:00,1:40,4:35,7:20
- **Vampires Suck** (PG–13) 9:50,12:10,2:40,4:50,7:10,9:20
- **The Expendables** (R) 11:15,1:45,4:30,7:00,9:30
- **The Other Guys** (PG–13) 11:10,1:50,4:25,7:05,9:40
- **Despicable Me** (PG) 10:05,12:30,3:00,5:30
- **Step Up 3** (PG–13) 9:50 P.M.

SHOWPLACE CICERO 14 (AMC)
4779 W. Cermak., Cicero
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) 12:15,2:45,5:15,7:45,10:15
- **Going the Distance** (R) 11:30,2:10,4:40,7:05,9:35
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife** (R) 11:00,1:30,4:00,6:30,9:00,11:30
- **Machete** (R) 11:15,12:45,1:45,3:15,4:15,5:45,7:00,8:30,9:30,11:00
- AMC Independent **The American** (R) 11:40,2:15,4:45,7:15,9:50
- **Takers** (PG–13) 11:10,1:50,4:10,5:30,6:45,8:15,9:15,10:45
- **The Last Exorcism** (PG–13) 12:30,2:40,4:50,7:10,9:10,11:20
- **Lottery Ticket** (PG–13) 12:20,2:50,5:20,7:40,10:00
- **Piranha** (R) 3:10,5:25,7:50,10:20
- **The Expendables** (R) 11:55,2:30,5:00,7:20,9:45
- **Vampires Suck** (PG–13) 11:20,1:20,3:45,5:50,8:00,10:10
- **The Other Guys** (PG–13) 10:45,1:05,3:40,6:10,8:10,11:10

SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION
Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago
(312) 564-2104

- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) ★ 7:50,10:30
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) ★ 11:10,11:40,12:20, 1:50,2:20,3:30,4:30,5:00,6:00,7:00,8:30,9:30,11:00
- **Bran Nue Dae** (PG–13) ★ 10:20,12:40,3:00,5:15,7:40,10:10
- **Machete** (R) ★ 7:30,10:15
- **Going the Distance** (R) ★ 10:30,1:10,3:40,6:20,9:20
- **Machete** (R) ★ 10:40,1:30,4:40
- **The American** (R) ★ 11:00,12:30,1:40,3:20,4:20,6:10,7:20, 8:45,10:00,11:15
- **The Last Exorcism** (PG–13) ★ 9:40 P.M.
- **Takers** (PG–13) ★ 7:10,9:55
- **Lottery Ticket** (PG–13) 10:00,1:00,4:00,6:50
- **Takers** (PG–13) 10:10,1:20,4:10
- **Eat Pray Love** (PG–13) 9:50,12:50,3:50,7:15,10:20
- **The Expendables** (R) 10:50,2:00,4:50,7:45,10:25
- **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG–13) 11:30,2:30,5:20,8:10,10:50
- **The Other Guys** (PG–13) 11:50,2:40,5:10,8:00,10:40
- **Inception** (PG–13) 11:20,2:50,6:30,9:45
- **The Twilight Saga: Eclipse** (PG–13) 9:45,12:45,3:45,6:45,9:50

VIP Premium 21+

- **The American** (R) ★ ***VIP Premium 21+*** 11:00,12:30, 1:40,3:20,4:20,6:10,7:20,8:45,10:00,11:15

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)
1022 Lake Street, Oak Park
(630) 444-FILM #560

- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) ★ 12:30,2:45,5:00,7:15,9:30
- **Going the Distance** (R) ★ 12:20,2:40,5:00,7:20,9:40
- **Machete** (R) ★ 12:30,2:50,5:10,7:30,9:50
- **The American** (R) ★ 12:10,2:30,4:50,7:10,9:30
- **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) 12:00 P.M.
- **Eat Pray Love** (PG–13) 1:00,3:55,6:50,9:45
- **Get Low** (PG–13) 12:00,2:20,4:40,7:00,9:20
- **Inception** (PG–13) 2:20,5:25,8:30

EVANSTON

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)
1715 Maple Ave., Evanston
(847) 492-0123 ♿

- **Bran Nue Dae** (PG–13) 12:15,2:30,4:55,7:15,9:35,11:45
- **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG–13) 12:01 Midnight
- **Machete** (R) ◆ 12:30,3:05,5:40,8:15,11:25
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife** (R) 12:10,2:40,5:10,7:40,10:10
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) 1:00,3:30,6:05,8:30,11:00
- **Resident Evil: Afterlife 3D** (R) 11:30,2:00,4:30,7:00,9:30,11:55
- **Eat Pray Love** (PG–13) 12:45,3:55,7:05,10:30
- **Get Low** (PG–13) 11:25,1:55,4:25,7:00,9:35
- **Going the Distance** (R) 11:25,2:05,4:25,7:10,9:45
- **Mao's Last Dancer** (PG) 12:55,4:05,7:10,10:10
- **Mesrine: Killer Instinct** (R) 11:20,5:00,10:35
- **Mesrine: Public Enemy Number One** (R) 2:00,7:45
- **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG–13) 1:50,4:35,7:20,10:05
- **Takers** (PG–13) 11:35,2:10,4:40,7:25,10:00
- **The American** (R) 12:00,1:15,2:35,3:50,5:20,6:40,8:00,9:20,10:40,11:50
- **The Expendables** (R) 12:05,2:40,5:10,7:50,11:15
- **The Last Exorcism** (PG–13) ◆11:30,1:40,4:00,6:15,8:30,10:45
- **The Other Guys** (PG–13) 11:35,2:05,4:45,7:35,10:15
- **The Switch** (PG–13) 12:15,2:50,5:25,7:55,10:30

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MATT PAIS

mpais
@tribune.com

I'm Still Here

R

●●○○

From fascinating to frustrating

In 2008, two-time Oscar nominee Joaquin Phoenix declares he's retiring from acting to explore an arguably more creative outlet: hip-hop. Soon Phoenix, sporting increasingly scraggly facial hair, seeks to get Diddy to produce his album and appears on an unforgettably uncomfortable episode of "Late Show with David Letterman."

The buzz: The debate two years ago was whether Phoenix's actions all were a hoax. That question remains, along with what he'll do after this documentary, which was directed by Phoenix's brother-in-law, Casey Affleck, and possibly shares DNA with Sacha Baron Cohen's button-pushing techniques.

Phoenix
MAGNOLIA PICTURES

The verdict: Affleck follows Phoenix's erratic search for fulfillment, whether he's rapping for Edward James Olmos or snorting coke off a hooker's breasts. His emotional abuse toward his assistant, Antony (formerly of the band Spacehog), and Antony's retaliation stings pretty hard, even if it's all for show. The big question that the peculiar, trapped-in-ambiguity "I'm Still Here" doesn't answer is whether Phoenix is working through a creative rut or his unusual behavior is par for the course or if it's just done for the benefit of the film. America's celeb-obsessed society should ask what type of career snafu can be forgiven and if on some level we want stars to fall, but that inquiry doesn't stand up when Phoenix's career do-over is so scattered and self-destructive. Not to mention: He's a terrible rapper.

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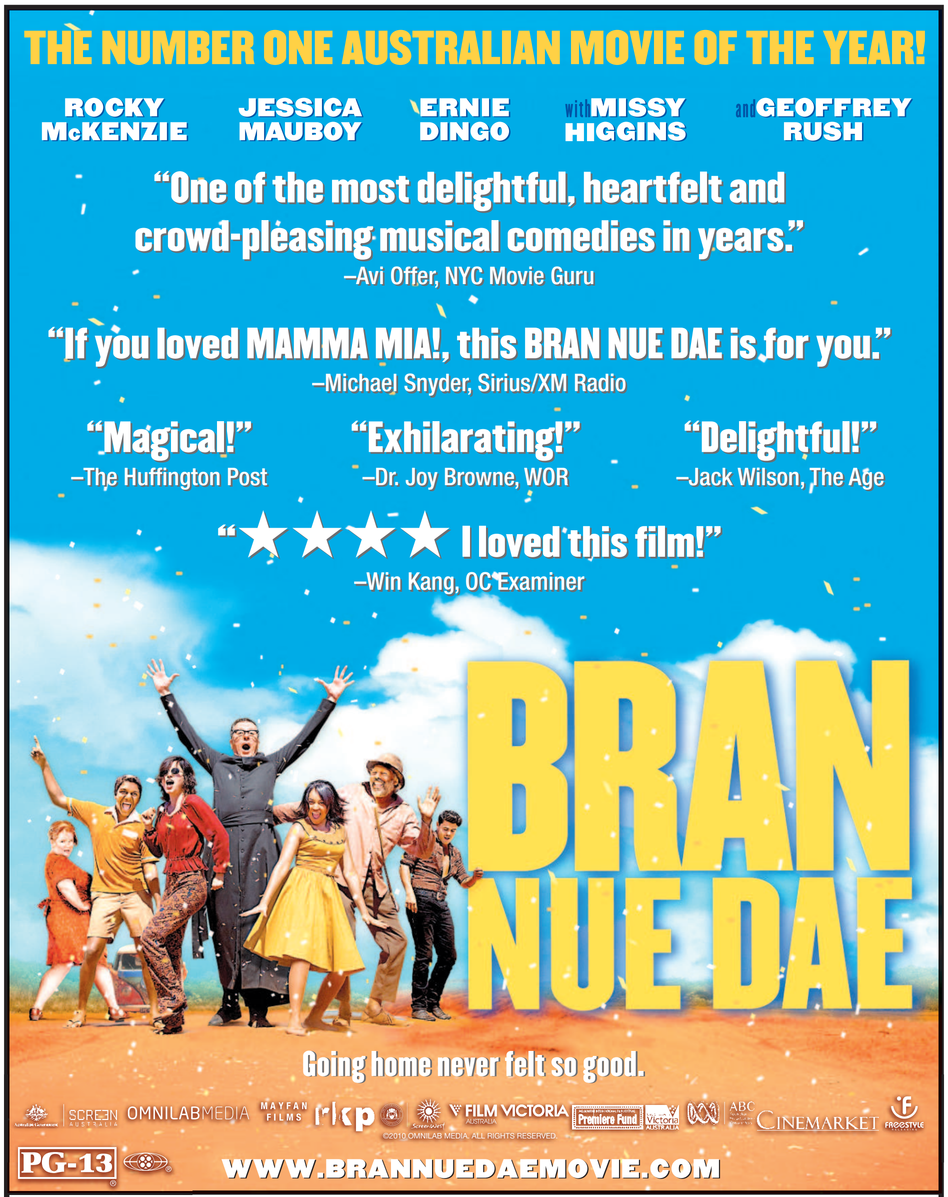

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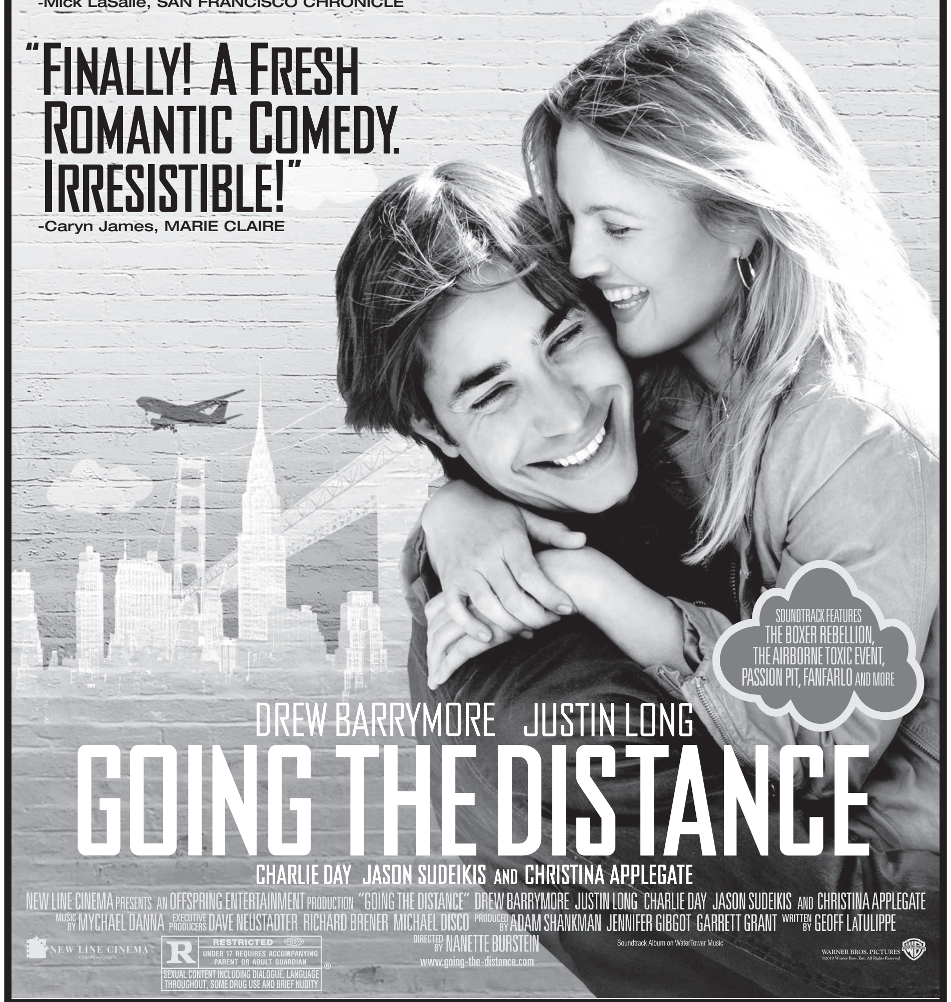

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THE AMERICAN

@kelmay: Need a nap? Go see "The American."

@carlyann_25: The American: ALMOST a silent film. All the action happens in the last 10 minutes. Definitely wait for the DVD.

@vaughnchicago: "The American" has good looking people in beautiful places staring at each other for too long. The only danger I felt was boredom.

TAKERS

@ChickenSamich: I saw "Takers" over the weekend and it was more or less a knock off of "Oceans 13" but with a more ethnic vibe lol

@BrittanyLCase: I saw Takers and it was a really good movie, much better than I thought! It helps that there are hotties in it too!

@StrongConfiW: Loved "Takers" and did not want it to end. Was still looking for more ..left you assuming what happened next

GOING THE DISTANCE

@fritziehernandz: "Going The Distance" is predictable yet hilarious. Extra points for Justin Long's pasty white tush.

@arabobara2: Going the Distance: Surprisingly hilarious. A bit crude, but every character, even the smallest of them, was memorable!

@dvtess: saw Going the distance. It was way better than expected. Funny and makes you appreciate having some1 u love here w u now.

MACHETE

@mostofficiaLbee: Machete- killer flick that addresses 2days immigration issue DannyTrejo JessicaAlba Michelle Rod RobertDniero need I say more?

@Jerzicua: #Machete an awesome film by Rodriguez who w/ a good cast depicts a violent joy ride making you want Machete to kill again.

@gonzalodelriov: I decided to mess with the right Mexican and saw the fun filled action splatter fest film known as MACHETE!

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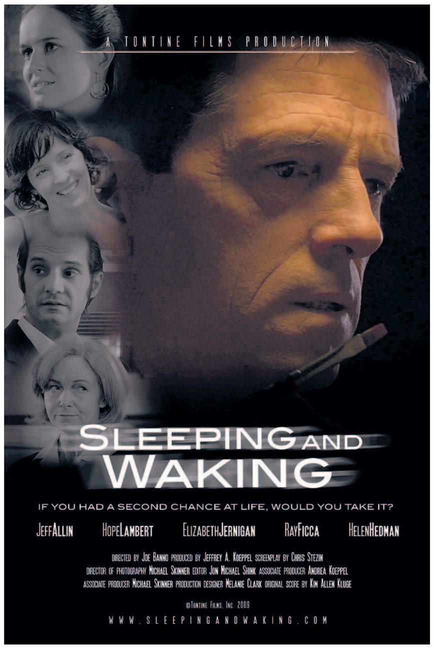

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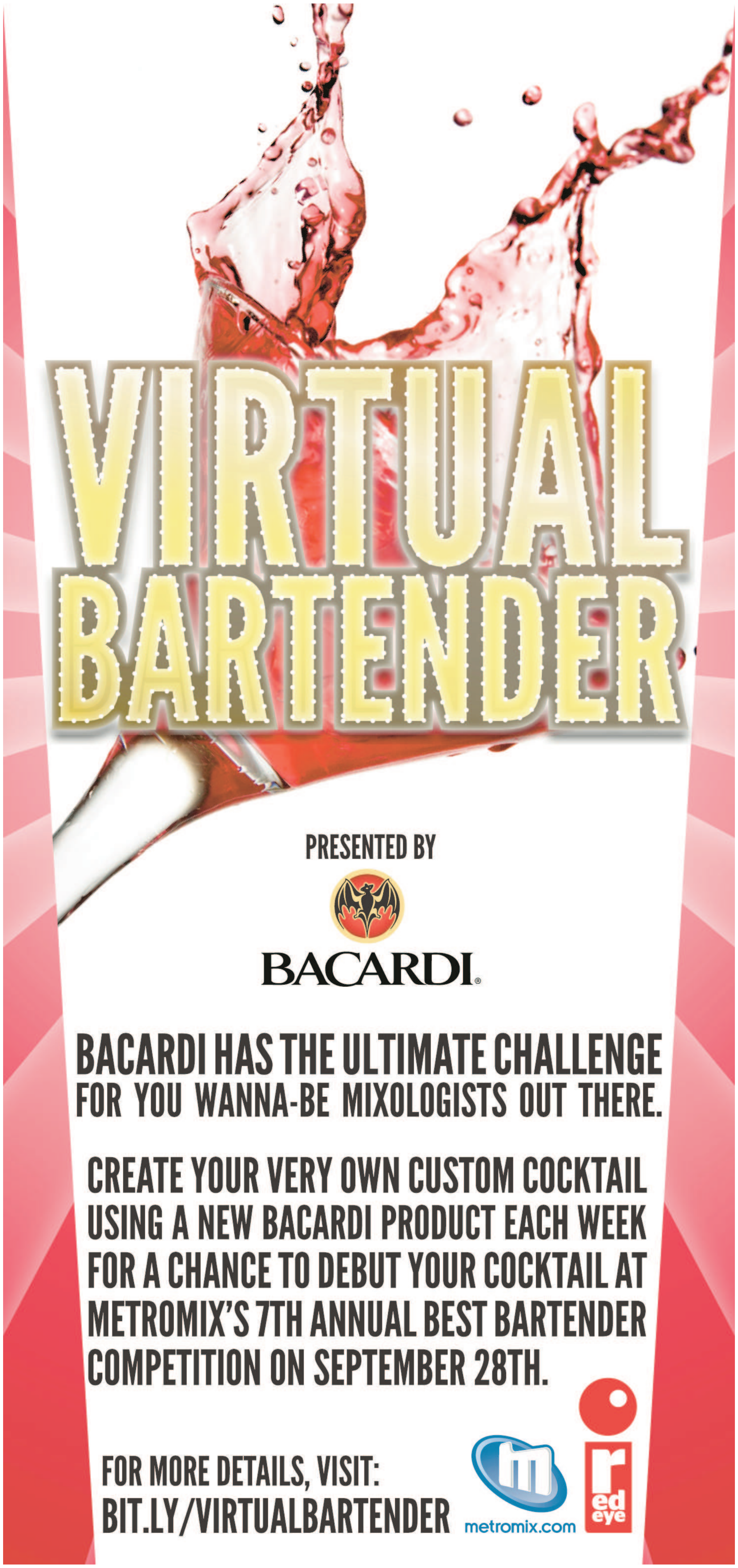
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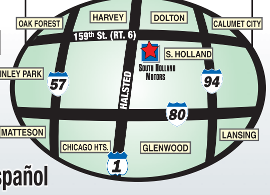

Cena
WWE STUDIOS

Living ‘Legendary’

By Elliott Serrano
FOR REDEYE

John Cena, the latest pro wrestler to move from the WWE ring to movies, takes his first crack at drama in “Legendary,” opening Friday. The 33-year-old plays an older brother who mentors an aspiring high school wrestler (Devon Graye). He stars opposite some heavy hitters, including Patricia Clarkson and Danny Glover. RedEye chatted with Cena about the role and his future.

There are a couple of action scenes in the movie, but it’s mostly dramatic. How do you think your performance was, and what different kinds of “acting muscles” did you have to use in this role?
It was a lot more organic. Everything was a lot more genuine. I think action specifically is kind of defying logic a bit. The stunts are supposed to be larger than life, the effects are supposed to be larger than life. And the heroes, especially, are supposed to be so super-human. It’s a little bit less real. This was just really genuine.

The relationship with me and Devon really just became brotherly, it was awesome. He was coming in with no experience whatsoever in amateur wrestling, and with me having very little experience in dramatic acting, we kinda leaned on each other and helped each other out. It really shows onscreen. It was a lot more real than an action set.

The scenes with you and Devon have a nice chemistry. This is his first chance to carry a big film. Did you have any advice for him seeing that you’ve done main events yourself?
[Laughs.] Not at all. Although this is his first job carrying a film, I think he’s done a lot more acting than me. And like I said, we kind of just really leaned on each other. He knocked it out of the park, man.

You’ve got the action movie star moniker under your belt. You’re doing drama now. So what’s next? Are you going to do comedy? Are you gonna do the romantic comedy thing like Gerard Butler?
[Laughs.] I’d like to think the world is my oyster, but what has really helped me so far is not trying anything that I’m too uncomfortable with. I think whatever the next films are going to be, it’s certainly a story that I would like to read and enjoy.

You’ve worked opposite Patricia Clarkson, Oscar nominee and Emmy winner. Who’s next on the list of actors that you’d like to work with?
Honestly man, at my experience level, that’s anybody. I have nothing but respect for anybody who’s made their living as a working actor.

How have things been in the WWE and what can we look forward to when you come to Chicago for “Night of Champions” in September?
Oh man, we’ve been fantastic. The touring schedule has been long and grueling as usual. I believe we’re headed towards a “Night of Champions,” so when we get to Chicago you’re going to see me and five other individuals in one match to determine who walks away the WWE champion. Actually it’s a pretty unique setting. Chicago is an awesome town for the WWE.

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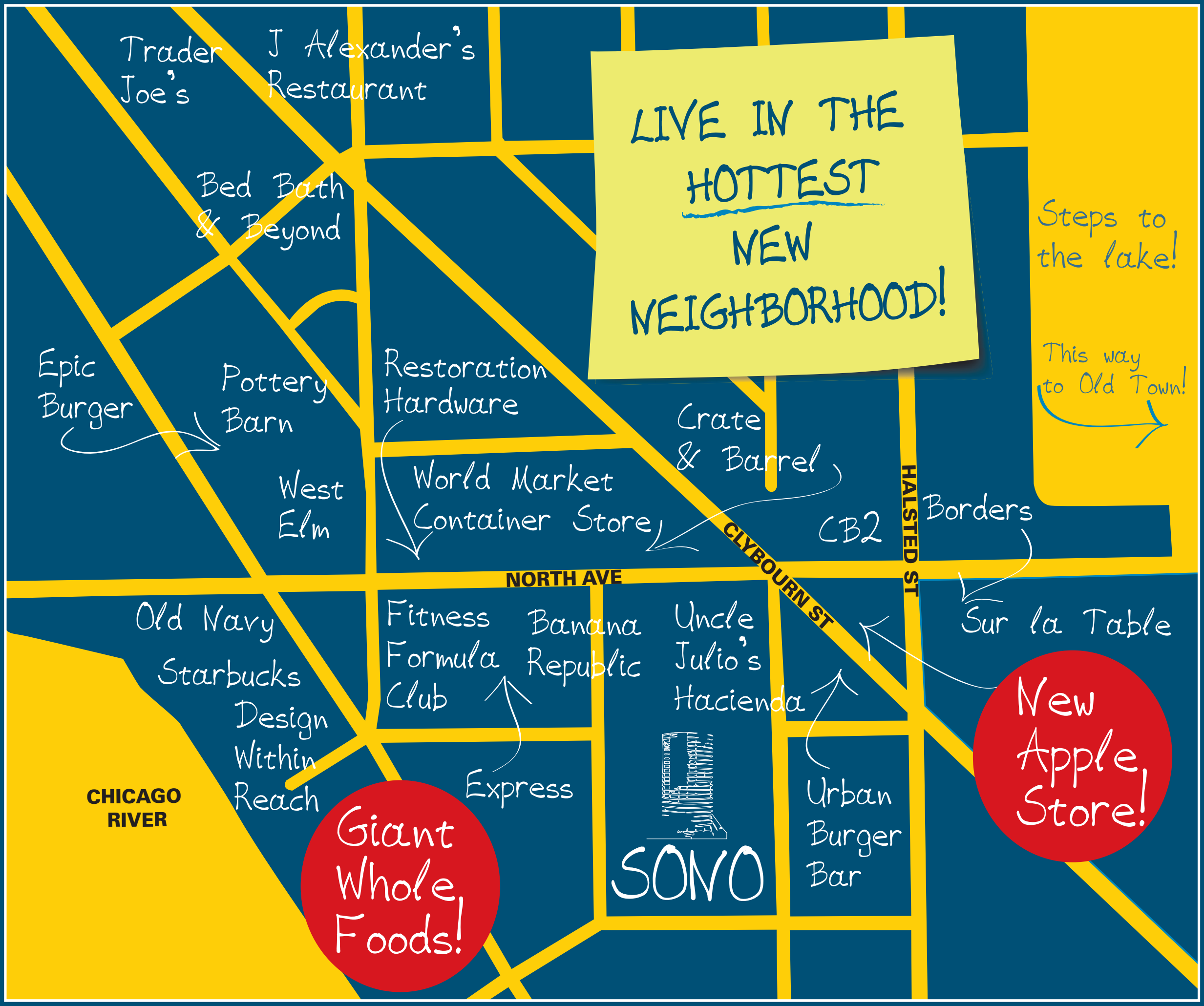
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Toronto film festival turns up the heat

L.A. Times

Four years ago, a controversial British film called "Death of a President" stormed into the Toronto International Film Festival. The media was abuzz about its premise, which imagined that President George W. Bush had been assassinated and Dick Cheney had ascended to the presidency.

It became the hottest ticket of the festival that year and inspired intense debate about the limits of artistic and political expression—before fizzling in commercial release.

Toronto, the preeminent North American gathering for top-tier filmmakers that started Thursday and runs through next weekend, generates more heat and contention than almost any other festival. But the movies that wind up with staying power—and with past awards contenders including "Slumdog Millionaire" premiering here in the past few years, there is no shortage of them—are not always the ones garnering the most headlines.

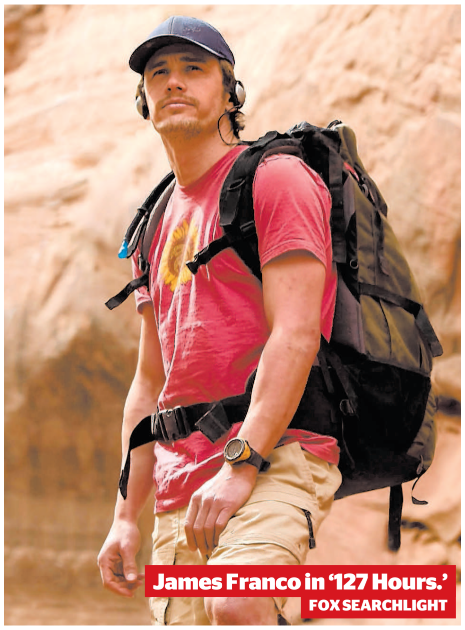
For organizers, it's a tricky balance. "If debate or controversy comes out of the festival, we think that's a good thing," said Cameron Bailey, co-director of the festival. "If controversy is coming from something outside of the films themselves, then it's a bit more of a problem."

Middle East conflict is on the map this year as Julian Schnabel premieres his Palestinian historical drama "Miral," which centers on an orphanage, stars Freida Pinto and already is generating awards season buzz.

"Casino Jack," in which Kevin Spacey plays disgraced lobbyist Jack Abramoff, will make its world premiere amid heavy pre-screening expectation.

And the debut of "Trust," the David Schwimmer-directed film about a girl who falls for an online predator, seems likely to ignite debate about the politics and ethics of identity in the digital age.

Filmmakers say gatherings such as Toronto are not just about empty provocation but also can encourage and amplify social and political debates in a meaningful way.


James Franco in '127 Hours.'
FOX SEARCHLIGHT

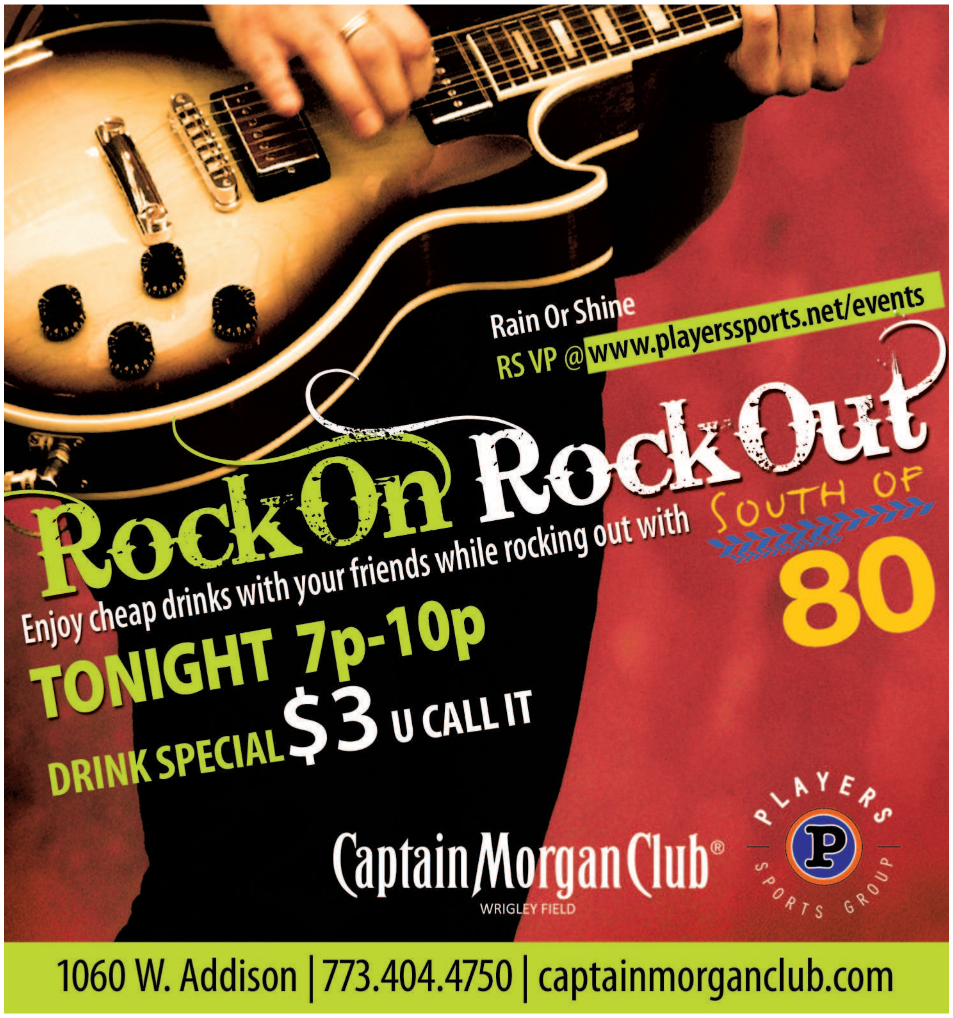
"The festival felt like a family and we'd just returned with news from the front," said Ariel Schulman, co-director of "Catfish," the social-media documentary that inspired fervent discussion at Sundance this year the way "Trust" could well do at Toronto.

This year, the most talked-about titles whose U.S. rights remain available include the adaptation of David Lindsey-Abaire's stage hit "Rabbit Hole"; Will Ferrell's dark drama "Everything Must Go," based on a Raymond Carver short story; and the Robert Redford-directed "The Conspirator," which centers on the events that unfolded after the assassination of President Lincoln.

The specialty division Fox Searchlight rides in with a trio of pictures that could attract attention. They include Darren Aronofsky's supernatural-tinged character drama "Black Swan," the Carey Mulligan dystopian mood piece "Never Let Me Go" and Danny Boyle's mountain-climber drama "127 Hours" starring James Franco.

The Weinstein Co. will officially premiere the Tom Hooper period drama "The King's Speech," starring Colin Firth, after a highly successful sneak screening at the Telluride Film Festival.

Still, many of the early contenders often don't end up panning out. "The fall festivals, and maybe especially Toronto, set the horse race," Bailey said. "But you can never predict what's going to come out of the back of the pack."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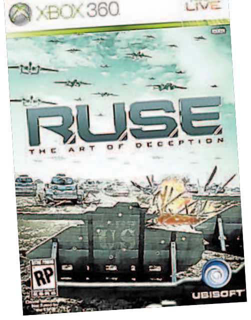

VIDEO GAME

‘R.U.S.E.’

$59.99 for Xbox 360 and PS3

If you’re not expecting “Starcraft II,” “R.U.S.E.” is a strong title for real-time strategy-starved console systems. It stands alone in the genre as more of a thinking man’s game because building the biggest force the fastest doesn’t ensure victory. You can utilize the ability to deceive and bluff your enemy in order to win the game. The single-player campaign drags, and there’s a steep learning curve, but the game’s multiplayer online feature is where “R.U.S.E.” really starts to shine. **RYAN SMITH FOR REDEYE (CHICAGONOW.COM/GAMESMITH)**

TV ON DVD

‘Prime Suspect: The Complete Collection’

$124.99 from Acorn Media

It’s been 20 years since this first of nine “Prime Suspect” police mysteries aired on PBS, but this British drama seems just as fresh and urgent as it ever did. That’s a tribute to the writing of creator Lynda La Plante, the ace production values and the absolute genius of Helen Mirren’s (left) work playing Deputy Chief Inspector (and eventually Detective Superintendent) Jane Tennison. As several talking heads say in one of two behind-the-scenes features, the series was a breakthrough in many ways. It was the first TV series to seriously focus on a female detective. (Sorry, “Cagney & Lacey.”) It also dealt with controversial subjects including racial tensions, homosexuality and male prostitution, child abuse, Bosnian refugees, organized crime and more. You won’t find a more thrilling police story on TV today. **CURT WAGNER, REDEYE**

THINGS THAT TURN US ON

STARZ PHOTO

TV

‘Martin Lawrence Presents 1st Amendment Stand Up’

10 p.m. Friday, Starz

Doman Williams (above) is the first local comic to appear on the new season of this comedy showcase, which was filmed over the summer at the Chicago Theatre and is hosted by Sheryl Underwood. Catch Williams’ act in the second of two episodes. First up are David Raibon, Smokey Suarez and Drew Fraser, followed by Williams, Darren Carter and Gina Yashere. Get ready to laugh. **CURT WAGNER, REDEYE**

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Who'll steal the show at VMAs this time?

MCT

Although nobody really thinks of MTV and "music video" in the same sentence much anymore, the Video Music Awards will once again sprawl across our screens Sunday night.

Who'll win? Does it matter? What's important—or most interesting really—is that more will be made of the scandal of last year's awards shebang, when Kanye West ran onstage and grabbed the mic from winner Taylor Swift, to declare that the prize really belonged to Beyonce, who, he declared, had made one of the best music videos of all time.

Instead of everybody dropping their jaws in astonishment that a) anybody cared enough about the VMAs to gather the energy to run up onstage; or b) Kanye thought music videos were an art form important enough to make this passionate public proclamation, the hubbub instead centered around Kanye being rude to Taylor.

This all lurched again to life recently, when Kanye took to Twitter to ponder the meaning of it all, to apologize to Taylor, and to say he's written a song for her. And talk about lucky timing! This year's VMAs are happening this Sunday! What a coincidence this isn't!

If you care, the folks at Yahoo! sent a statement about the most-searched VMA nominees. Will the most-searched nominees be the winning nominees? We'll find out. In the meantime, here's the list:

Gaga
GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Bieber

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

1. Lady Gaga, "Bad Romance"
2. B.o.B ft. Hayley Williams, "Airplanes"
3. Lady Gaga ft. Beyonce, "Telephone"
4. Eminem, "Not Afraid"
5. 30 Seconds To Mars, "Kings and Queens"
6. Florence + The Machine, "Dog Days Are Over"

BEST NEW ARTIST

1. Justin Bieber ft. Ludacris, "Baby"
2. Ke$ha, "Tik Tok"
3. Jason Derulo, "In My Head"
4. Nicki Minaj ft. Sean Garrett, "Massive Attack"
5. Broken Bells, "The Ghost Inside"

BEST FEMALE VIDEO

1. Ke$ha, "Tik Tok"
2. Lady Gaga, "Bad Romance"
3. Katy Perry ft. Snoop Dogg, "California Gurls"
4. Beyonce ft. Lady Gaga, "Video Phone" (Extended Remix)
5. Taylor Swift, "Fifteen"

BEST MALE VIDEO

1. Usher ft. Will.I.Am, "OMG"
2. B.o.B ft. Hayley Williams, "Airplanes"
3. Jason Derulo, "In My Head"
4. Eminem, "Not Afraid"
5. Drake, "Find Your Love"

BEST HIP-HOP VIDEO

1. B.o.B. featuring Hayley Williams, "Airplanes"
2. Drake, Kanye West, Lil Wayne & Eminem, "Forever"
3. Eminem, "Not Afraid"
4. Jay-Z & Swizz Beats, "On To The Next One"
5. Kid Cudi ft. MGMT & Ratatat, "Pursuit Of Happiness"

BEST POP VIDEO

1. Ke$ha, "Tik Tok"
2. Lady Gaga, "Bad Romance"
3. Katy Perry ft. Snoop Dog, "California Gurls"
4. Beyonce featuring Lady Gaga, "Video Phone" (Extended Remix)
5. B.o.B featuring Bruno Mars, "Nothing on You"

BEST ROCK VIDEO

1. Paramore, "Ignorance"
2. Muse, "Uprising"
3. 30 Seconds To Mars, "Kings and Queens"
4. MGMT, "Flash Delirium"
5. Florence + the Machine, "Dog Days Are Over"

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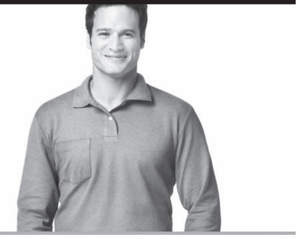

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Sweet sensation

Chicago's 'Top Chef: Just Desserts' contestant talks prepping for competition and her love of chocolate glazed donuts

By M. Kathleen Pratt

When River North restaurant Aigre Doux closed last summer, I kicked myself. If only I'd gone more often. If only I'd told more people about it. Then I'd still be able to order pastry chef Malika Ameen's sticky toffee pudding.

But while I've been crying over the loss of my toffee pudding—it's easily one of the top three desserts I've ever had in Chicago—Ameen has moved on. Next week, you'll be able to catch her on the premiere (10 p.m. Wednesday) of "Top Chef: Just Desserts," Bravo's pastry-focused, Gail Simmons-hosted spinoff of "Top Chef."

She's also been handling private dessert orders and consulting, and she's found time to launch a cookie business (debuting next week at **malikaameen.com**) inspired by her greatest hits at Aigre Doux. Plus she's a single mother to three young boys. (Ameen and Mohammad Islam, with whom she co-owned Aigre Doux, split after the restaurant closed.)

We talked to the Old Town resident about dealing with the stress of "Top Chef," guilty dessert pleasures and what appears to be a budding campaign to bring back Chicago's best canelles.

Did Aigre Doux prepare you for "Top Chef"?

I think going through an experience of opening and owning your own business helps you to cope and understand how to deal with stress, [and] for all of the contestants, stress is the big factor every day. But being on television, having to cook under the conditions that you do with all the surprises and twists—you can never really prepare for that.

What was your biggest fear going into the competition?

As professionals, the fear is always how we'll be perceived on the show. [But] when you go on the show, you don't really think of anything outside of what you're doing. You just have to be focused. It's really important to keep your mind calm.

So what do you do to stay calm?

I cook savory food. That's what I do to relax—I do the other side. ... I cook a lot at home for my children, and I'm lucky: My kids eat everything, so I am able to play around with flavors and ideas. It's really relaxing. ... I'm really kind of sad. [Laughs.] Food is the passion and the life.

Do you have a guilty dessert pleasure?

You know the packaged crumb cakes? Even the Entenmann's. I also really have a thing for chocolate glazed doughnuts. Especially the Boston creme doughnuts at Dunkin' Donuts. I have this really strange craving every once in a while, and it's like, if I don't have a doughnuts I'm going to die. I have to stop and get the doughnuts. It's bad. There's a Dunkin' Donuts near my house, so when I drive back from Whole Foods—and I'm such the responsible, good shopper—I have to push the accelerator a little faster to be like, "I can't stop there!"

Aside from Dunkin' Donuts, what's the most memorable dessert you've had in Chicago?

The canelles at the Peninsula bakery, Pierre Gourmet. They are out of this world. Canelles have two types of coatings. One is very heavily with butter; the other is with a combination of butter and beeswax. I like the latter. ... It gives this really interesting flavor and texture to the exterior of the canelle. It's just this amazing crunch. It's like they came straight out of Paris. ... [But they] just stopped doing them. They're not selling enough. But ... they'll probably bring them back if enough people call in!

M. KATHLEEN PRATT IS THE METROMIX DINING PRODUCER.

KPRATT@TRIBUNE.COM

3 Chicago favorites from Malika Ameen

Taxim: "I can't get enough of it."
Mado: "They have the best roast chicken in Chicago."
Shaw's Crab House: "My kids love crab, so that's always the big treat for them."

Operation dessert storm

What's your favorite Chicago dessert? We asked, you answered.

No matter how stuffed a dessert-lover may be after a big ol' dinner, there's always room for some sugar. We polled Twitter and Facebook to find out which local desserts you find sinful, succulent and so darn delicious. These are some of the sweetest responses.

TWITTER

@alicetan
Cream puffs from Beard Papa.

@heavenmalone
vegan donuts at Bite. Best fresh desserts around!

@13WiSH13
anything from Chef Michel Briand at Mon Ami Gabi....especially the white chocolate bread pudding!

@charlieseagnew
Paciugo Gelato!!! The Organic Maple Caramelized Bacon Gelato is mouth-watering. Don't knock it until you try it.

FACEBOOK

Sandy Alaniz
The McDreamy and Coconut Nuts cupcakes via Flirtycupcakes. They are so soft, creamy, delicious and I have to hunt down the van =)

Pamela Patinkin
The tiramisu at Prosecco. It's dreamy, creamy and throws a proverbial party in your mouth.

Adrienne Kerwin
vanilla cupcakes from southport grocery

Jill Dreckmeier Olk
Any flavor of Macaron from Macaron Chicago, Caramel Fleur de Sel is my favorite. They are the best in the Chicago area, and believe me, I have tried them all. Just like Paris!

—COMPILED BY SCOTT KLEINBERG

---

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BY ERIN DRAIN
metromix@tribune.com

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2540 W. Armitage Ave. 773-227-2822

Weekend hours: 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday

Amelia's: Anyone who's seen "The Philadelphia Story" knows the classic solution to the jangly nerves and misty stupor of a hangover is a little booze with your morning bacon. And fortunately, many local breakfast spots wholeheartedly support the notion of the retox brunch. South Siders and intrepid North Siders already know about Amelia's, a restaurant focused on elegant central-southern Mexican cuisine, but the brunch is a hidden gem. Bring your own bubbly (I recommend a fresh, fruity prosecco) and order a glass of OJ ($2.50) to make your own mimosa—it's the perfect accompaniment to classed-up huevos divorciados ($11), made with corn cakes and smoked salmon.

Swim Cafe: For truly raw mornings, keep the sunglasses on, grab an approachable six-pack and head to Swim Cafe, where a pastry case of assorted quiche, scones and bagels requires minimal decision-making. On Sundays, there's French toast—and there's always bottomless coffee from local roaster Bridgeport Coffee Company.

90 Miles: If you're craving something savory, head to 90 Miles Cuban Cafe, where you'll find pork in multiple iterations. Breakfast sandwiches are available until noon, the full menu is available all day, and they'll mix up homemade sangria with any bottle of wine you bring ($10 per pitcher). For a nice complement to the popular lechon sandwich ($6.50), bring a light, barely sweet riesling, which will give you a tannin-free sangria.

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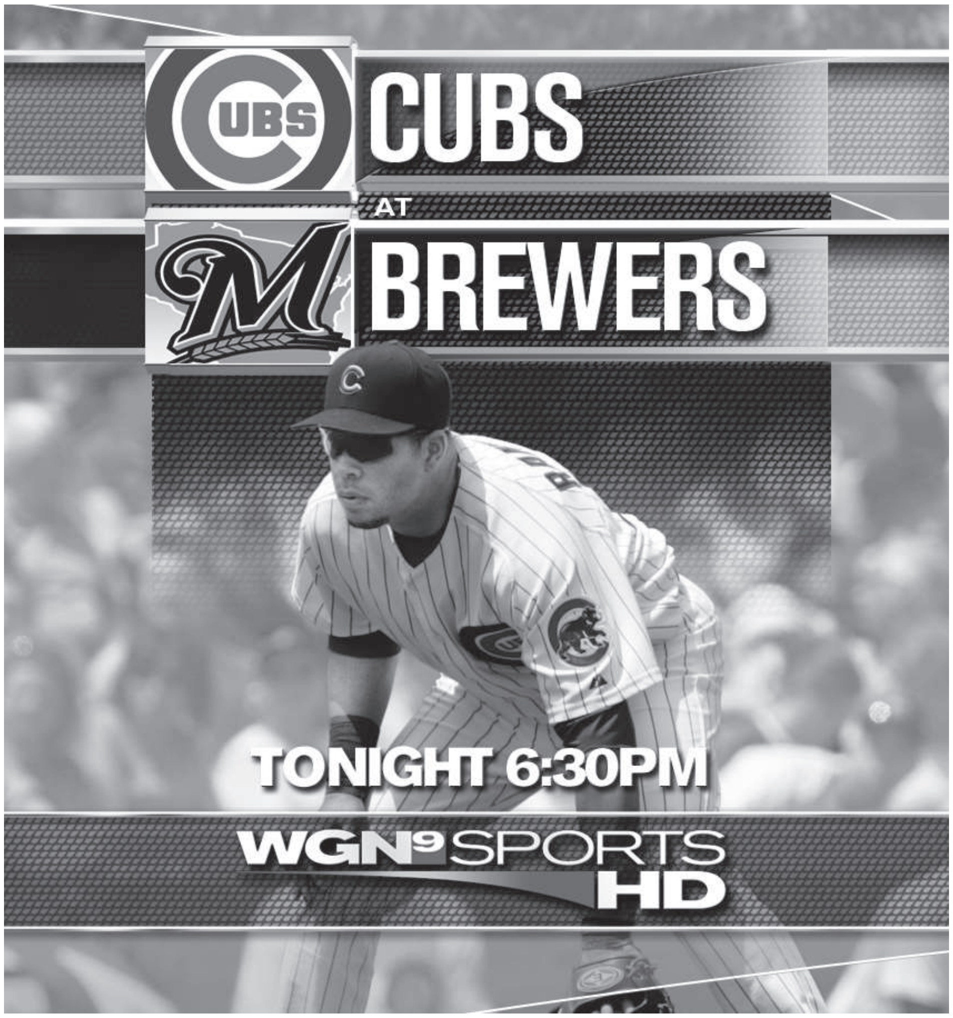

PASS&FAIL

NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS AND LOWLIGHTS FROM THE PAST WEEK

Maria's
JASON LITTLE PHOTO FOR METROMIX

✓ Maria's Packaged Goods & Community Bar

It's an understatement to say that Bridgeport's younger, more artsy residents have been in need of a hip bar-and-liquor store like this for some time. And boy are they a bunch of lucky ducks! An impressive beer list, handcrafted cocktails and uber-friendly bartenders comprise the inviting back tavern. Up front, an easily accessible store selling great craft beer surely will be a pre-party stop for many. **—LISA BALDE**

✗ Lillie's Q

This new Bucktown barbecue spot has been playing up "moonshine"-based cocktails, but when we arrived thirsty on a recent evening, there was nary a drop of the stuff in the house. (Our server—the same one who dropped the check before we were even half-finished with our meal—was unapologetic.) Thank goodness the amazing barbecue makes up for it. We'll be back soon for the tri-tip and, with any luck, another shot at that white lightning. **—M. KATHLEEN PRATT**

FRIDAY DRAFT DEALS

10PIN BOWLING LOUNGE
$2 Blue Moon drafts; 330 N. State St. 312-644-0300.

ATLANTIC BAR & GRILL
$4 Shock Top drafts; 5062 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-506-7090.

BECKETT'S
$4 Dogfish Head 60 Minute IPA drafts; 3210 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-880-9620.

THE BEER BISTRO
$4 draft of the month; 1061 W. Madison St. 312-433-0013.

BOTTOM LOUNGE
$3 Schlitz drafts; 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

BUTCH MCGUIRE'S
$4 Leinenkugel Summer Shandy drafts; 20 W. Division St. 312-337-9080.

CHIEF O'NEILL'S PUB
$4 Carlsberg drafts; 3471 N. Elston Ave. 773-473-5263.

Simone's Bar
METROMIX FILE

CLEOS ARMITAGE
$3.50 Sapporo drafts; 2048 W. Armitage Ave. 773-227-6700.

DIVISION ALE HOUSE
$4 Magic Hat #9 drafts; 1942 W. Division St. 773-384-6886.

HARRIGAN'S
$2 PBR drafts; 2816 N. Halsted St. 773-248-5933.

KINCADE'S
$3 Goose Island drafts; 950 W. Armitage Ave. 773-348-0010.

LONG ROOM
$4 select microbrew drafts; 1612 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-665-4500.

MULLEN'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL
$3.50 Leinenkugel drafts; 7301 N. Western Ave. 773-465-2113,

THE ROCKING HORSE
$4 Lagunitas drafts; 2535 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-486-0011.

SIMONE'S BAR
$4 drafts; 960 W. 18th St. 312-666-8601.

SMALL BAR
$4 Metropolitan drafts; 2956 N. Albany Ave. 773-509-9888.

U.S. BEER COMPANY
$4 Hoegaarden drafts; 1801 N. Clybourn Ave. 773-871-7799.

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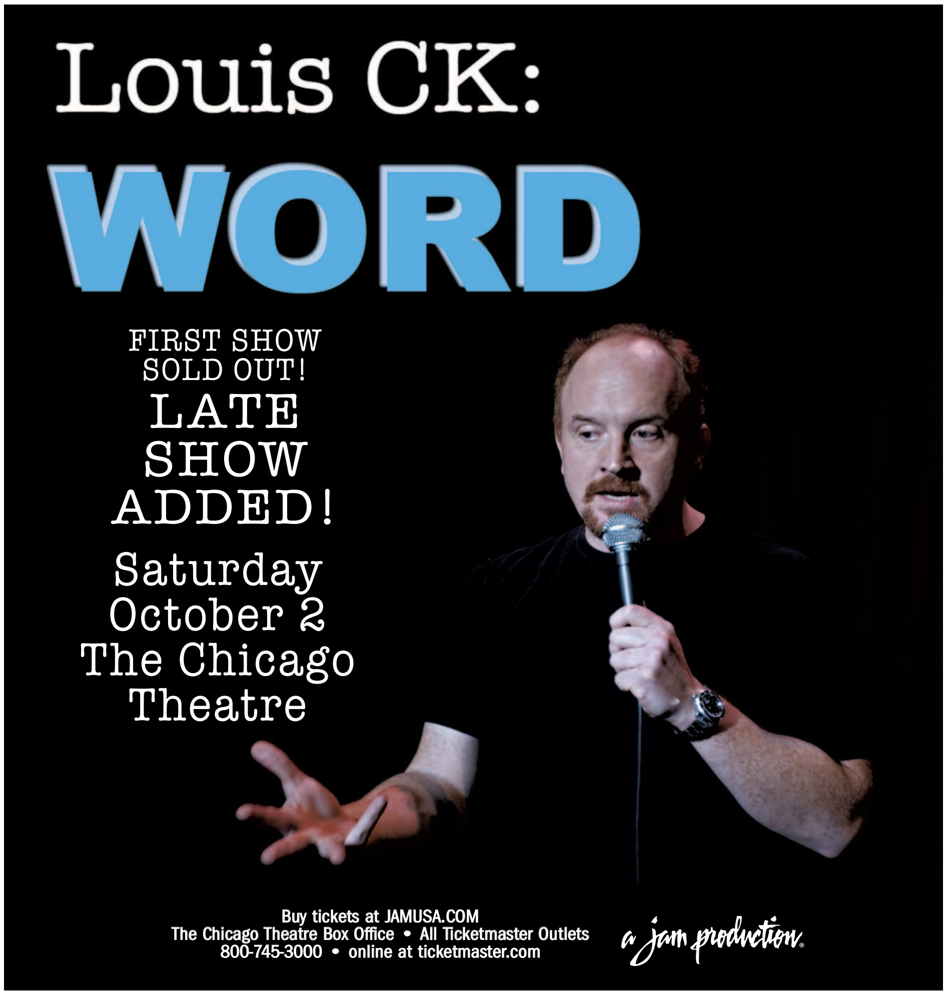

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TOP SHOWS

MATT PAIS' PICKS FOR THE WEEKEND

THE GIVING TREE BAND
Read our interview with the locals at ***metromix.com****. With JC Brooks and the Uptown Sound, How Far To Austin, Future Laureates.*

8:30 p.m. Fri. $10-$13. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

BUKE AND GASS
They make all their own instruments, those being a baritone ukulele and guitar/bass hybrid. Rangda, Efterklang, Michael Zerang/Jim Baker Duo headline.

9 p.m. Fri. $15. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

UNICYCLE LOVES YOU
Locals celebrate the release of new haunted indie pop disc, "Mirror, Mirror." With Village, The Nurse Novels.

10 p.m. Sat. $10. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

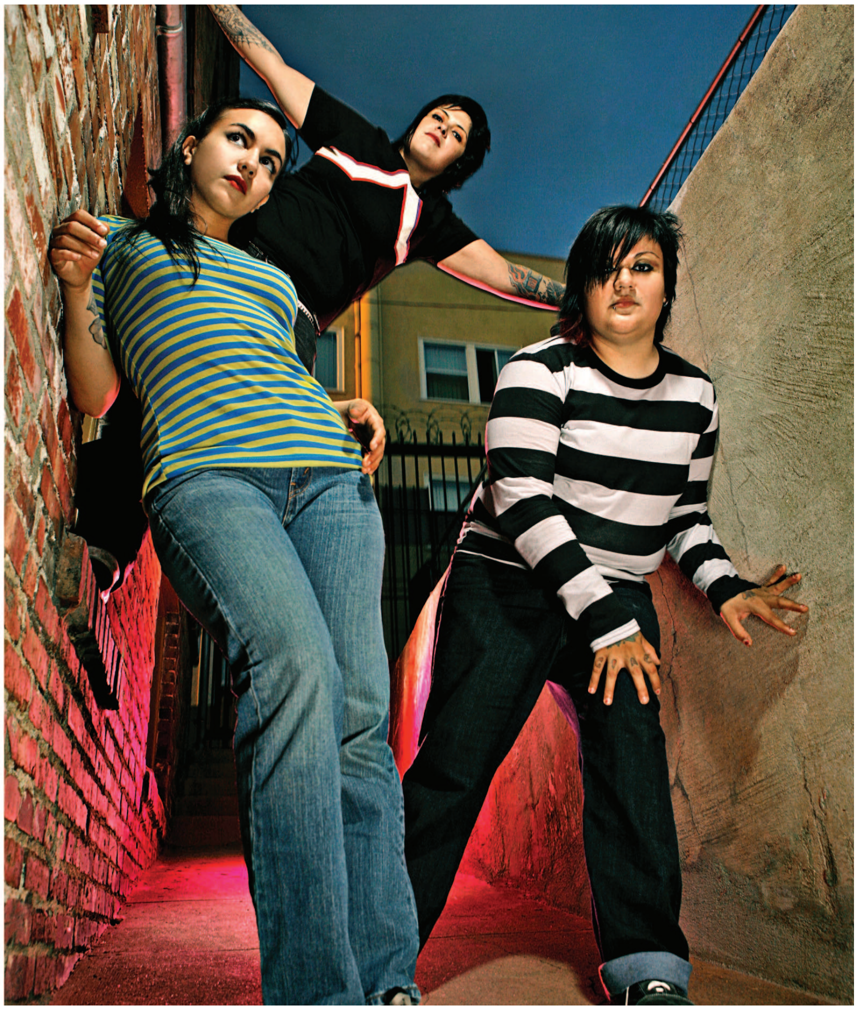
SONAR CHICAGO: INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ADVANCED MUSIC AND MULTIMEDIA ART
The electronic music fest, in Chicago for the first time, rolls on. See full schedule at ***metromix.com****.*

3 p.m. Fri.-Sat. Free. Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. **www.sonarchicago.com**.

GIRL IN A COMA

You may have heard their "Yo Oigo" in "Machete." With Hacienda, Sick of Sarah.

8 p.m. Sun. $10-$12. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 773-281-4444.



MORE WEEKEND CONCERTS

FRIDAY

A.D.D., KASTASYDE, THE BURNING DOWN, STUCKUNDERWATER
8:30 p.m. $6-$9. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

THE AMAZING LARRIES, TALKY TINA, LYNYRDS INNARDS, SORE SUBJECTS
8 p.m. $7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave. **mpshows.com**

ANAIS MITCHELL
7 p.m. $10-$18. Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

THE ATARIS, GASOLINE HEART, THE SCISSORS, FINISHING SCHOOL
8:30 p.m. $12-$14. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 773-281-4444.

BLOW THE SPEAKERS, NADASTROM AND WILLY JOY, DARK WAVE DISCO
10 p.m. $8. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

BRANTLEY GILBERT, JESSICA RAE
8:30 p.m. $10. Joe's Bar, 940 W. Weed St. 312-337-3486.

DEATH SHIPS, CLIP ART, JOHN ROESER AVENUE, T'BONE
10 p.m. $7. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

DEVON ALLMAN'S HONEYTRIBE
10 p.m. $12-$24. Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

FANCY BEAST, BLACK MUFF
10 p.m. $5. Morseland, 1218 W. Morse Ave. 773-764-8900.

FU MANCHU, BLACK TUSK, AUDIO VIOLENCE, ANXIETY HIGH
9 p.m. $15. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

GREEN MILL QUARTET JAZZ JAM SESSION
1 a.m. Free. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

HARLAN FLO, CODENAME VANDALAY, UNEMPLOYED ARCHITECTS, BEARINGER BOYS
9 p.m. $5. Red Line Tap, 7006 N. Glenwood Ave. 773-274-4563.

HEYPENNY, KYLE ANDREWS, SEAFARER, A LIGHT SLEEPER
8:30 p.m. $7-$10. Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave. 773-381-4554.

HOT HOT HEAT, 22-20S, HEY ROSETTA!
10 p.m. $15. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

HOWARD ALDEN/ ANDY BROWN QUARTET
9 p.m. $10-$15. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

JUNIOR SISK AND RAMBLER'S CHOICE
8 p.m. $15-$20. American Legion Music Hall, 1030 Central St., Evanston. 847-573-0443.

LAURA TSAGGARIS, DAN PRICE
8 p.m. $5 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

THE LIMBOS, CMN INEED YR HLP, CANYONS OF STATIC, WHALES
10 p.m. $5 donation. Cal's Liquors, 400 S. Wells St. 312-922-6392.

MACHINEDRUM, LOBOUNCE, WOLF PACK, JASPER, BIGG TIME
9 p.m. $20. The Kinetic Playground, 1113 W. Lawrence Ave. 773-769-5483.

MATT RYD, MIKE MENTZER, LITTLE LIGHT
9 p.m. $10. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

PAPA GROWS FUNK
10 p.m. $12. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

RATATAT, DOM
7:30 p.m. Fri. $22.50-$25. Riviera Theatre, 4746 N. Racine Ave. 773-275-6800.

SAM AMIDON, VIA TANIA
8 p.m. $12-$16. Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-728-6000.

THE STRAWBS, SIR PLASTIC CRIMEWAVE
7:30 p.m. $20-$25. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

TIA FULLER QUARTET
8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

TYPICAL CATS, QWEL AND MAKER, DJ SPS, MEATY OGRE, MAXILLA BLUE
8 p.m. $10. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

YOKO NOGE'S JAPANESQUE
9:30 p.m. $15. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

»» page 43

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SATURDAY

ABIGAIL WASHBURN
8 p.m. $21-$25. Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-728-6000.

ABSTRACT SCIENCE DJS AND QUADRATIC
Noon. Free. Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park, 201 E. Randolph St. 312-742-1168.

ALICE PEACOCK
7 p.m. $20. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

ANATOMY OF HABIT, E.T. HABIT
9 p.m. $6-$8. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

APTEKA, SISSY MENA, SECRET COLOURS, KAM
9 p.m. $8. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600.

ASSEMBLY OF DUST
9 p.m. $16. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

THE BOMB, NOISE BY NUMBERS, THE TRANSGRESSIONS, NO ENEMY!
8:30 p.m. $8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 773-281-4444.

CHEVERE
9 p.m. $20. Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave. 773-381-4554.

CHRIS SMITHER
8 p.m. $18-$30. Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

CHRIS WEAVER BAND
10 p.m. $8. Joe's Bar, 940 W. Weed St. 312-337-3486.

CLIFF JOHNSON AND THE HAPPY JACKS, THE ROMEROS
9 p.m. $12. FitzGerald's, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn. 708-788-2118.

DEXTER, DEAR ADORA, VALIUS
9 p.m. $5. Red Line Tap, 7006 N. Glenwood Ave. 773-274-4563.

THE DUKES OF SEPTEMBER RHYTHM REVUE FEATURING DONALD FAGEN, MICHAEL MCDONALD AND BOZ SCAGGS
7 p.m. $29.50-49.50. The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St. 312-462-6300.

HIGH PLACES, WOODEN SHIPS, JULIAN LYNCH, AHLEUCHATISTAS
9 p.m. $15. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

THE HOOD INTERNET AND KID STATIC, WALLPAPER, DVAS,

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@mmxMusic

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Robert Plant releases a new album Tuesday. How much would you pay to see Led Zeppelin? How far would you fly? Why?

Here are some answers we liked from Twitter and Facebook. Follow **@mmxmusic** and watch for next week's question!

TWITTER

@JCapp1538
i would pay anything & fly anywhere 2 see Zep.They're the greatest band of all time.Love em.Even got Swan Song tatt
18 minutes ago via TwitBird in reply to redeyechicago

@careymatt
$500/ticket

@ChrisLKeller
I'd pay up to $700 to have a decent seat, even in third or fourth deck. $250 to know I could get in and hear. Fly anywhere.

FACEBOOK

Rich Ramey
I'd clear my bank account to see them live!

Andrew Kent
Are we talking in their prime or today? If at their height of fame and awesomness, a (bleep) ton. Like $1,000. If we're talking in present time, at their current age and musical talent: Nothing. $0. Robert Plant became a giant wuss. Alison Kraus? Really dude? Go drink some Sanka and play shuffleboard with my parents.

Michael McGuinness
Bah-Raising Sand is an awesome album.

Joe Donahue
@everyone...Check out a band from Australia called "Electric Mary" you will love them!

James Ess
several yrs ago plant and page got together and did this live thing on mtv with a bunch of middle eastern music... and i was horrified as to how bad plant sounded. not many rock singers hold up real well after 50 (robin zander of cheap trick is the best exception i can think of. sammy hagar's held up pretty well, too). so my answer is...i'd prefer to skip it than hear plant embarrass himself.

Kerri Olsen
This was my first concert ever: 9/18/1995 Dallas Reunion Arena. Okay, it was Jimmy Page & Robert Plant, but that still counts right?

Jamie C Hauser
I would travel the ends of the earth to see Led Zeppelin.

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««« page 43

JUST DESSERTS, KID COLOR
10:30 p.m. $10. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

KELE, DOES IT AFFEND YOU YEAH?, INNERPARTYSYSTEM
9 p.m. $23.50. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

LED ZEPPELIN 2
9 p.m. $18-$23. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

LET ME RUN, RUST BELT LIGHTS, X IS FOR EYES
8 p.m. $7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave. **mpshows.com**

LIONS AND LANTERNS, TAKE THE SKY, THE ENERGY COMMISSION, ZACH BONNAN
8 p.m. $3. Underground Lounge, 952 W. Newport Ave. 773-327-2739.

LUDACRIS
9 p.m. $40. Park West, 322 W. Armitage Ave. 773-929-5959.

TAIL DRAGGER WITH WILLIE BUCK
10 p.m. $12. Rosa's Lounge, 3420 W. Armitage Ave. 773-342-0452.

TIA FULLER QUARTET
8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

TINA M. HOWELL AND THE FELLAS SHOW, ASCENDANT, DIRTY MF AND THE SMOKIN SEXTION, NOAH AND THE GENIUS
9 p.m. $7. Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

XAVIER RUDD AND IZINTABA, GOOD OLD WAR
8:30 p.m. $22.50-$25. Vic Theatre, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-472-0449.

SUNDAY

BRAD COLE, DAVID HAWKINS, SUE FINK
7 p.m. $5 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

CATHY RICHARDSON, WENDY COLONNA
8:30 p.m. $15. Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave. 773-381-4554.

CAVE, CLOUDLAND CANYON, MICK BARR, HELEN MONEY
9 p.m. $10. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

CHICAGO BLUES HARP BASH: JERRY PORTNOY, HIGHWAY RICKEY, HARRY GARNER, LAMONT HARRIS, SHOJI NAITO, KIRK MANLEY, BILLY FLYNN, WILLIE BUCK
6 p.m. $15-$25. Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

THE CHOP TOPS, THE GRAVETONES, JOHNNY MURDER AND THE 25 TO LIFE, THE HEAVIES
7 p.m. $10. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

EMILY WELLS, ANGEL OLSEN
8 p.m. $12. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

GO HANG, NICK COURY, LOOKING DAGGERS, IAMPRIMATE
8 p.m. $7. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

THE HEAVY BOMBERS, JIMMY TWO HANDS
6 p.m. $5 donation. Quenchers Saloon, 2401 N. Western Ave. 773-276-9730.

THE RAILS, CRASH HERO, STANDBY RADIO
8 p.m. $10. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600.

WAVVES, CHRISTMAS ISLAND, KILLER WHALES
7 p.m. $12-$14. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

SKYBOX

WHAT LAURA SAYS
9 p.m. Fri. $10. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600.

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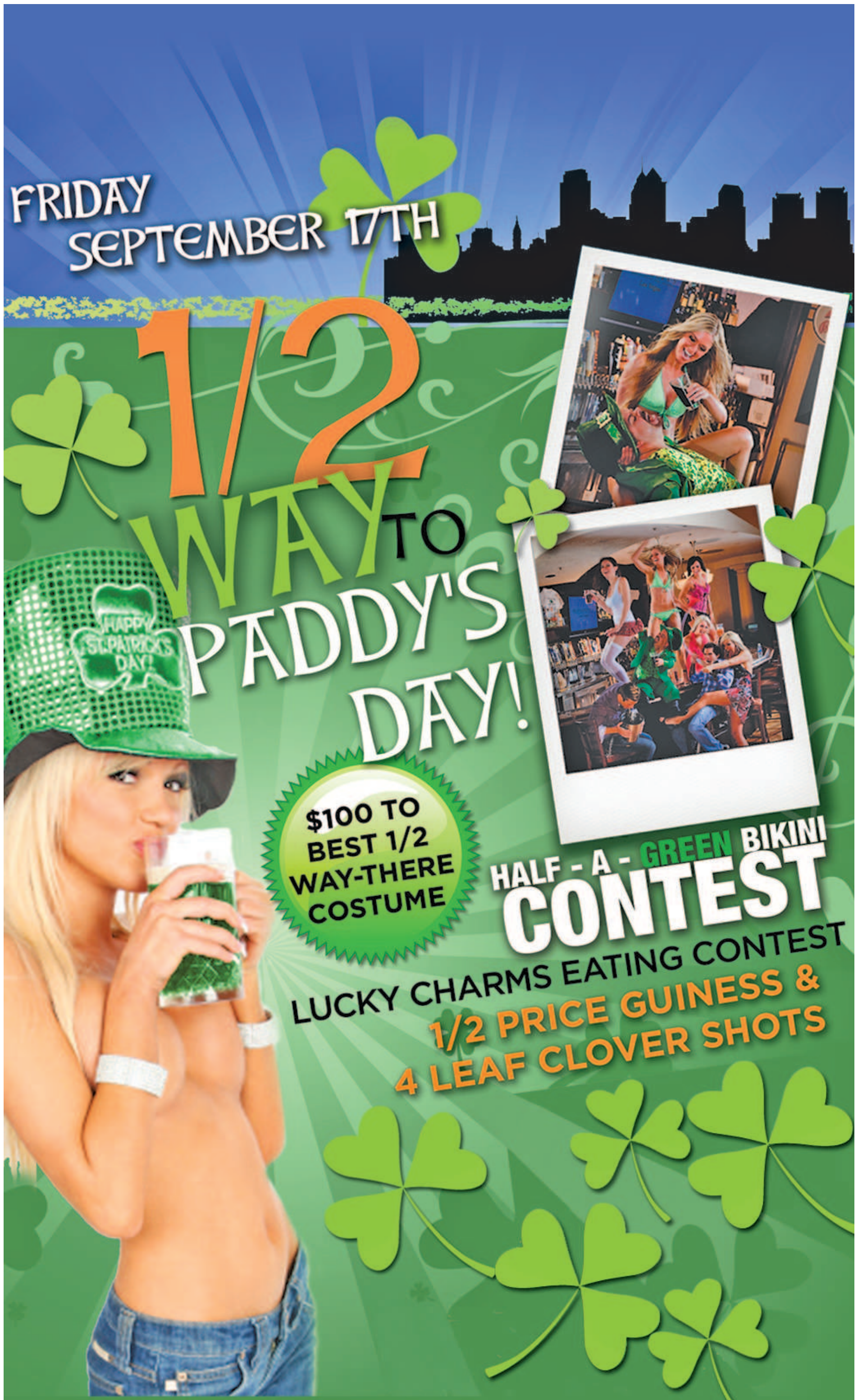
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YOUR ON-SALE CONCERT GUIDE

ON SALE 10 A.M. FRIDAY
M.I.A.
Wednesday, Sept. 29, Thursday, Sept. 30 ($35, 18+) at Vic Theatre.

ON SALE 10 A.M. FRIDAY

Mary J. Blige, Jazmine Sunday, Oct. 17 ($59.75-$125.75, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.
Katherine Jenkins, Tuesday, Nov. 9 ($24.75-$33, 17+) at House of Blues.

Aaron Lewis, Wednesday, Oct. 20 ($33-$53, 17+) at House of Blues.

ON SALE NOON FRIDAY

Phantogram, Josiah Wolf, Sunday, Oct. 24 ($13, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.
SoKo, Thursday, Oct. 28 ($10, 21+) at Schubas.

ON SALE 10 A.M. SATURDAY

The Dresden Dolls, Mucca Pazza, Wednesday, Nov. 17 ($25, 18+) at Vic Theatre.

Great Divide, Saturday, Oct. 23 ($10, 18+) at Schubas.

Greg Laswell, The Rescues, Wednesday, Nov. 3 ($15, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

LCD Soundsystem, Hot Chip, Monday, Oct. 25 ($35, 18+) at Aragon.

Lucha Vavoom, Thursday, Nov. 11 ($25-$50, 18+) at Park West.

MT Desolation, Saturday, Oct. 30 ($15, 18+) at Schubas.

Playing for Change, Wednesday, Nov. 10 ($35, 18+) at Park West.

Richard Thompson Band, Friday, Nov. 5 ($32.50, 21+) at Vic Theatre.

KT Tunstall, Hurricane Bells, Sunday, Nov. 21 ($30, all ages) at Vic Theatre.

Umphrey's McGee, Wednesday, Dec. 29 ($32.50, all ages), Thursday, Dec. 30 ($32.50, 18+), Friday, Dec. 31 ($75, 18+) at Riviera Theatre.

ON SALE 11 A.M. SATURDAY

Shemekia Copeland, Friday, Dec. 31 ($40-$45, all ages) at Space.

Jeffrey Foucault, Wednesday, Dec. 8 ($12-$15, all ages) at Space.
Girlyman, Friday, Dec. 17 ($20-$25, all ages) at Space.

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MAYNESTAGE
MAYNE STAGE

9/10 HEYPENNY & KYLE ANDREWS
9/11 CHÉVERE
9/12 CATHY RICHARDSON
9/16 COLIN TYLER
9/17 SHANNON McNALLY & HOT SAUCE
9/19 WFMT CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES
9/19 DROP STEADY
9/24 EASTERN CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS
9/26 LAS GUITARRAS DE ESPAÑA
9/27 BEARS VS PACKERS ON A 22 FOOT SCREEN
9/28 SIERRA LEONE BAJAH + DRY EYE CREW
9/29 TALVIN SINGH INDIAN CLASSICAL FUSION
10/5 DARREN HANLON
10/6 B1G T1ME
10/7 THE ANDREAS KAPSALIS & GORAN IVANOVIC DUO W/ TIM SPARKS
10/8 DREW ANDREWS & THE SPECTRAL CITIES W/ THE LONLIEST MONK
10/9 MICHELLE L' AMOUR
10/13 ENSEMBLE DAL NIENTE
10/14 HOSANNAS
10/16 JOHNNY FLYNN
10/16 OLD CANES
10/22 & 23 AMY & FREDDY
10/29 JAILL W/ TEAM BAND
11/12 & 13 JAMIE KILSTEIN & GLENN WOOL
11/26 JESSIE ARLEN
12/3 & 4 MARIA BAMFORD

[visit www.maynestage.com for complete lineup]

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«« page 47

ON SALE NOON FRIDAY

Robyn

Maruka, Natalie Kills, Saturday, Nov. 13 ($20, all ages) at Metro.

Godsmack, Five Finger Death Punch, Drowning Pool, Friday, Oct. 15 ($39.50-$49.50, all ages) at UIC Pavilion.

Honey Island Swamp Band, Friday, Nov. 5 ($12-$15, all ages) at Space.

Hot Buttered Rum, The Lee Boys, Thursday, Dec. 2, Friday, Dec. 3 ($20-$25, all ages) at Space.

Jill Sobule and Julia Sweeney, Friday, Dec. 31 ($20-$25, all ages) at Space.

Joe Krown Trio, Walter Wolfman Washington, Russell Batiste, Saturday, Dec. 11 ($15-$18, all ages) at Space.

Lucy Kaplansky, Thursday, Dec. 9 ($17-$20, all ages) at Space.

Ellis Paul, Saturday, Nov. 13 ($20-$25, all ages) at Space.

Ryan Bingham and the Dead Horses, Saturday, Oct. 23 ($15, 17+) at Subterranean.

Jenny Scheinman, Nels Cline, Jim Black, Todd Sickafoose, Wednesday, Dec. 1 ($25-$30, all ages) at Space.

ON SALE NOON SATURDAY

Bifunkal, Origin of Animal, Department of Revenge, Daylight Savings Account, Sunday, Nov. 7 ($5, 21+) at Double Door.

The Cathy Santonies, Milk at Midnight, Aloud, Bassel, Tuesday, Oct. 26 ($5, 21+) at Double Door.

Chevelle, Friday, Oct. 29 ($31, 18+), Saturday, Oct. 30 ($31, all ages) at Metro.

Suicidal Tendencies, Wednesday, Nov. 17 ($26, all ages) at Metro.

ON SALE 10 A.M. MONDAY

Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Friday, Nov. 26 ($25-$61, all ages) at Allstate Arena.

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2007 LINCOLN MKZ Leather, Roof, Gold Pkg! Stk. #XP14958	$17,577*
2007 DODGE NITRO Black, Lthr, Roof, Loaded, Super Nice! Stk. #P14922A	$17,977*
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1994 FORD RANGER 5 Speed, CD, Clean! Stk. #45973B	$2,977*
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					8		9	4
			6	4	9	7		
		6	8	3	2			
6	1		9					
9		7			6		1	
		5			3		2	

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2	3	8	9	4	5	7	6	1
6	7	9	1	8	3	4	5	2
7	2	6	3	1	9	8	4	5
9	8	3	4	5	2	1	7	6
5	4	1	8	7	6	9	2	3
8	9	2	5	3	4	6	1	7
3	1	7	6	2	8	5	9	4
4	6	5	7	9	1	2	3	8

THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS

■	A	R	T	■	S	L	O	P	■	A	E	S	O	P
C	R	O	W	■	T	O	L	L	■	L	L	A	M	A
L	E	V	I	■	R	A	G	E	■	L	I	T	E	R
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P	A	R	T	E	D	■	■	E	A	G	E	R	■	■
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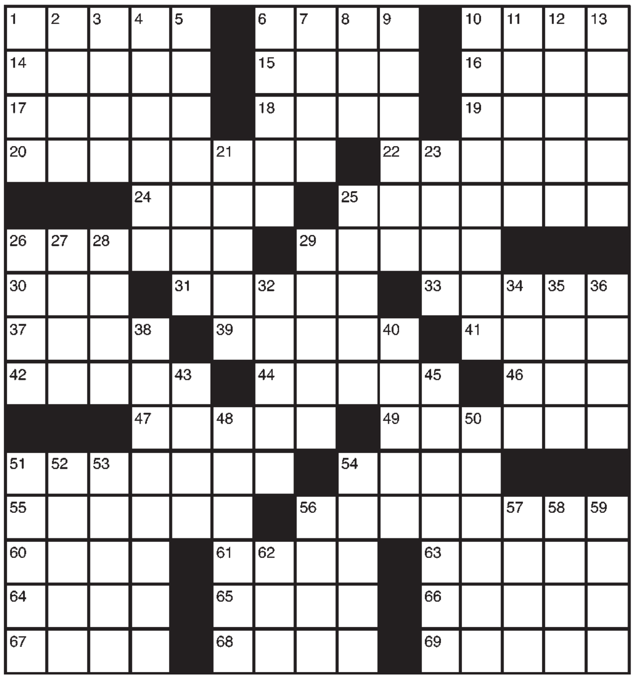
P	A	S	S	E	■	L	A	K	E	■	D	E	N	T
S	T	E	A	D	■	E	Y	E	S	■	S	L	Y	■

ACROSS
1 Bundle of grain
6 Mischief makers
10 Trudge
14 Tree-climbing marsupial
15 USPS delivery
16 Change the decor
17 Mistake
18 "Guilty" or "Not guilty"
19 Discharge
20 Not requiring dry cleaning
22 Short-horned grasshopper
24 Not at home
25 Opposite of wealth
26 Feudal lord's subject
29 Shot at a target
30 Wrath
31 __ for; desire desperately
33 Offensive, needs a bath
37 Former name of Thailand
39 Laziness
41 Jib or spinnaker
42 Fess up
44 Despondency; sadness
46 VW forerunners
47 From the 'hood
49 Horse's gait
51 Exhaustion
54 Draw; attract
55 Public speaker
56 Slaughter
60 Popular pop
61 Ticket end
63 Fine display
64 "So be it!"
65 Alleviate
66 Depart
67 Final
68 Formal combat
69 Carrying a gun

DOWN
1 Distort
2 Circle dance
3 Dumbo's wings
4 Maui greetings
5 Distant
6 Suggest indirectly



7 Masculine
8 Lemon meringue __
9 Zigzag skiing
10 Comes before
11 Nocturnal primate
12 Keats, for one
13 Bonkers
21 Hay bundles
23 Finished
25 Two-colored horse
26 Passport endorsement
27 Dry
28 Stitched joining
29 On __; having continued success
32 Seaweeds
34 Vane direction
35 Windy day toy
36 Insult
38 Combative
40 __-pocus
43 African nation
45 Cooking wine
48 Used foul language
50 Closer
51 __ point; center of attention
52 Bakery passer's delight
53 Stories
54 Can wrapper
56 Ponder
57 Stuff
58 Talk wildly
59 Watched
62 Fraternity letter

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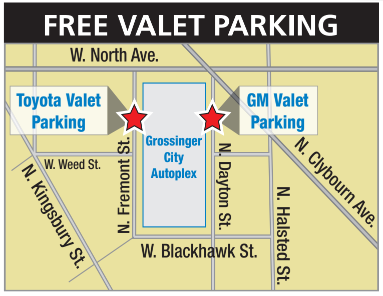

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Ping-pong, pot, pounds & more

Britney Spears

Susan Sarandon
GETTY IMAGES

Jackie Warner
GETTY IMAGES

Mike Tyson
GETTY IMAGES

SATISFYING

Dating game?

Susan Sarandon's ping-pong club partner is fine with false reports he's dating the actress because the romance rumors are giving their New York business a big boost. Sarandon co-owns Spin with Jonathan Bricklin, who has been rumored to be her lover. Bricklin tells New York magazine: "Business was notably better from the first article on. I mean, I'm happy as [bleep] if that sells things." What a refreshing blast of honesty.

SATISFYING

Reformed fatty

Super-toned trainer Jackie Warner, star of Bravo's "Thintervention," says she used to be overweight. The 42-year-old trainer reveals she ballooned from 118 pounds to 169 pounds in college. "I was alone in L.A., and it was a huge culture shock," Warner, an Ohio native, tells InTouch Weekly. "I was depressed and ate junk food every day." Good to know that the slender trainer wasn't always that way and can actually relate to those of us with excess baggage.

SILLY

Tyson's regret

Boxing legend Mike Tyson's biggest regret in life is refusing to smoke weed with Tupac Shakur. Shakur often would offer marijuana to Tyson, but Tyson feared boxing officials would find out if he inhaled. Tyson tells the Associated Press: "He always wanted me to smoke weed with him, and I never did it, and I wish I did. That's my biggest regret." Shakur was gunned down in Las Vegas in 1996 after watching a Tyson fight.

STRANGE

Brit's bits

Britney Spears' former bodyguard, Fernando Flores, has filed a lawsuit against her, claiming Spears made "repeated unwanted sexual advances" toward him. In one instance, Flores alleges: "She was wearing a white lace, see-through dress. She walked over close by [Flores], intentionally dropped her cigarette lighter on the floor, bent over to retrieve it and thereby exposed her uncovered genitals to [Flores]." Weird, but if true, it's nothing most of the rest of the world didn't see in those photos of her getting out of a car sans panties.

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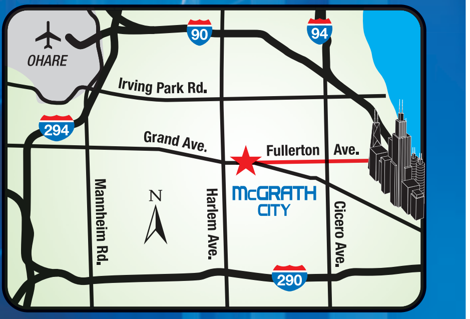

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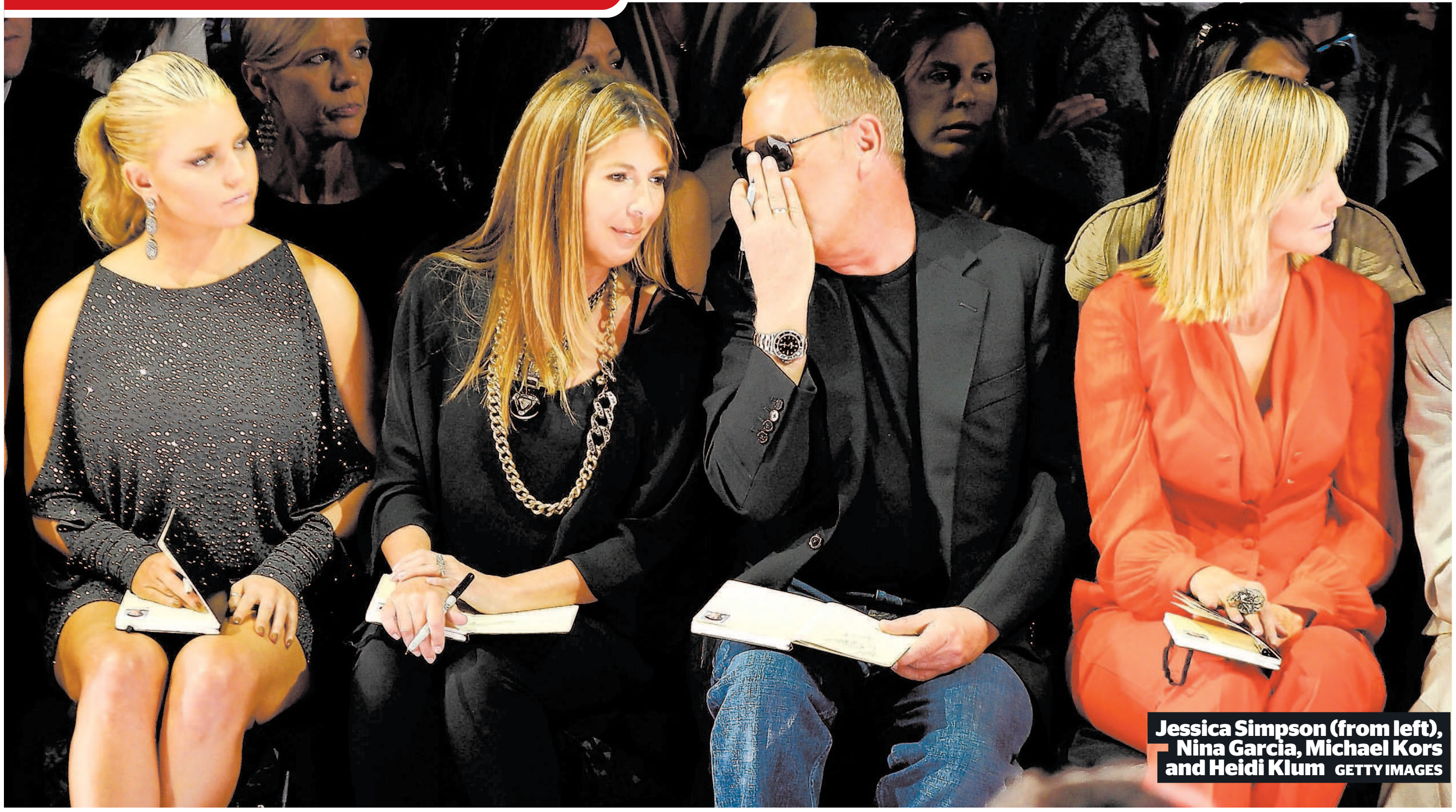
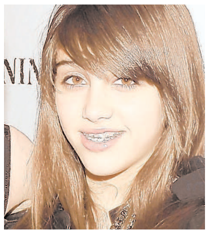
red hot



Jessica Simpson (from left), Nina Garcia, Michael Kors and Heidi Klum GETTY IMAGES

‘Runway’ success

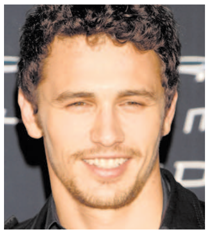
Jessica Simpson has a new denim line and a hot new man, but that’s not all. She also is the guest judge for the “Project Runway” finale. Wearing a shimmering gun-metal gray mini-dress, Simpson joined judges Michael Kors, Nina Garcia and Heidi Klum on judges’ row Thursday at New York Fashion Week. All 10 of the remaining designers presented collections to keep everyone guessing, **people.com** reports.



Leon

She’s gonna learn how to fly

She is sure to rule the school. Madonna’s daughter, Lourdes Leon, started her freshman year at LaGuardia High School on Wednesday, The New York Daily News reports. The public performing arts school is best known for inspiring the movie “Fame.” Other students said she seemed like “a normal person.”



Franco

Just good at his job

James Franco says his roles have led to some misconceptions about him. “Everyone thinks I’m a stoner, and some people think I’m gay because I’ve played these gay roles,” he tells the Advocate. “I don’t smoke pot. I’m not gay. But on another level, there’s something in me that is able to play roles like that in a way that’s convincing.”

Shady start

Coming off a serious resurgence with “Love The Way You Lie,” Eminem will be the opening act at Sunday’s MTV Video Music Awards, the channel reports. The rapper, who is nominated for eight trophies at the show, ended a three-year hiatus from the business in 2008 but hasn’t really caught fire again until this year. Looks like the real Slim Shady is standing up again.

«DIGIT

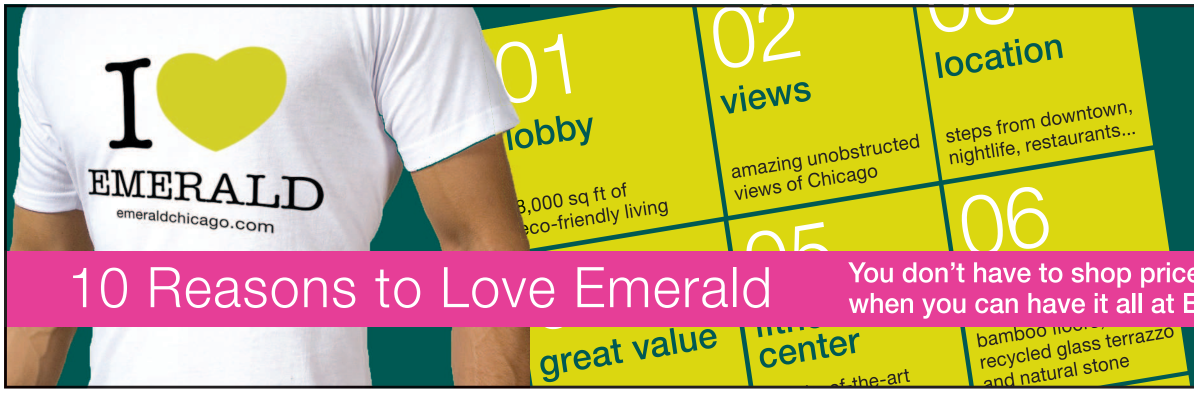
nine

That’s the age of Will Smith’s daughter, Willow Smith, who’s just been signed to Jay-Z’s Roc Nation label based on her debut single, “Whip My Hair,” according to **mtv.com**. “I can imagine that’s how Mike [Jackson] was as a young kid,” Jay told listeners when announcing the news Thursday on Ryan Seacrest’s radio show.

QUOTE

“How do people deal? I get catcalls on Eighth Avenue. Guys think I’m an Asian lesbian. How do these girls even walk around?”

—Christian Siriano, in an interview with The New York Observer, referring to a Japanese model who auditioned for his spring 2011 collection runway show



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